National Anti-Slavery Standard.

SIDNEY HOWARD GAY, EDITOR. Without Concealment....Without Compromise. EDMUND QUINCY, JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL, } CORRESPONDING EDITORS.

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Selections.

STEAMSHIPS TO AFRICA.

REPORT OF THE NAVAL COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE IN FAVOR OF THE PROJECT.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Aug. 1, 1850

Mr. F. P. STANTON, of Tenn., from the Committee on Naval Affairs, made the following Report, which was committed and ordered to be printed:

The Committee on Naval Affairs, to whom was referred the memorial of Joseph Bryan, of Alabama, for himself and his associates, George Nicholas Sanders and others, praying the establishment of a line of Steamers from the United States to the coast of Africa, designed to promote the colonization of free persons of color, to suppress the African Slave Trade, to carry the mails, and to extend the commerce of the United States, beg leave to submit the following Report:

The proprosition of the memorial involves an extension of that system, recently commenced by Congress, which has for its object the creation of a powerful steam navy, to be used in time of peace in carrying the mails, and in effecting great public objects, not to be attained by private enterprise without the aid of Congress. How far it may be desirable to extend this system will depend upon the double consideration of the present condition of our naval force, and the importance and feasibility of the ends to be accomplished by the measure. As to the first of these, the Committee will present a brief statement of the facts material to a correct understanding of the comparative extent of our present steam navy.

In the report of Mr. Secretary Bancroft, made to the Senate on the 2d of March, 1846, the total effective steam navy of Great Britain was stated at that time, to consist of one hundred and ninety-nine vessels, of all classes; that of France numbered fifty-four; that of Russia, without the Caspian fleet, thirty-two; while the steam navy of the United States could boast of but six small vessels, and one in process of building; and of these one was for harbor defence, and another a steam tug.

Since that time, however, Congress has provided for the building of four war steamers, and for the establishment of several lines of steamships engaged in carrying the mails, consisting of seventeen large vessels, suitable for war purposes, and at all times liable to be taken for the public service. Of these latter, nine will run between New York and European ports; five between New York and Chagres; and three between Panama and San Francisco.

Notwithstaning this increase in our force, it has by no means kept pace with that of other great commercial nations. The American Almanac for the present year estimates the steam navy of France at sixty four steam vessels of war, besides a reserved force of ten steam frigates now ready, and six corvettes and six small vessels nearly ready. The French Government has also resolved to follow the example of England in establishing lines of steamers, built so as to be easily converted into ships of war, to be employed in commerce and for carrying mails, but being at all times subject to the requisition of the Government.

England, also, has added largely to her steam navy, and has increased her lines of mail steamers—giving evidence that she, at least, considers this the best and cheapest mode of providing in time of peace for the exigencies of war. On this subject the Committee refer to the following facts, for which they are indebted to the remarks of the Hon. T. Butler King, of Georgia, made in the House of Representatives, Feb. 19, 1848:

By act of Parliament, 7 William, IV. chap. 3, all previous contracts entered into for the conveyance of the mails by sea were transferred to the Admiralty. In the year 1839, the idea was conceived that the vast expenditures required in naval armaments might be made subservient to the purposes of commerce in time of peace. Accordingly, a contract was entered into with Mr. Cunard and his associates, for the conveyance of the mails from Liverpool, via Halifax, to Boston, in five steamers of the first class, for £85,000, or about $425,000 per annum. It was stipulated that they should be built under the supervision of the Admiralty, should be inspected on being received into the service, and certified to be in all respects capable of being converted into ships of war, and of carrying ordinance of the herviest description. Various stipulations were entered into in this and other contracts of a similar character, which placed these ships under the control of the Government—thus, in fact, making them, to all intents and purposes, at the same time a part of the merchantile and military marine of the country.

In 1846, the Government enlarged the contract with Mr. Cunard and his associates, by adding four ships to run from Liverpool to New York, and increased the compensation to £145,000, or about $725,000, per annum.

In the year 1840, a contract was made by the Admiralty with the Royal Mail Steamship Company, at £240,000 sterling, or about $1,200,000, per annum, for fourteen steamers to carry the mails from Southampton to the West Indies, the ports of Mexico on the Gulf, and to New-Orleans, Mobile, Savannah and Charleston. These ships are of the first class, and are to conform in all respects, concerning size and adaptation to the purposes of war, to the conditions prescribed in the Cunard contracts.—They are to make 24 voyages a year, leaving and returning to Southampton semi-monthly. Another contract has been entered into for two ships to run between Bermuda and New York. These lines employ 25 steamers of the largest and most efficient description.

In addition to the above, a contract was made 1st January 1845, with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, for a line of similar steamers, seven in number, from England to the East Indies and China, at £160,000 sterling or about $800,000, per annum. This line passes from Southampton, via Gibraltar and Malta, to Alexandria, in Egypt; thence the route continues overland to Suez, at the head of the Red Sea, whence the steamers again start, touching at Aden, Bombay, and at Point de Galle, in the island of Ceylon, whence they proceed to Singapore and Hong Kong. There is a branch line connecting with this, from Point de Galle to Calcutta, touching at Madras.

A contract was made, 1st July, 1846, for a Pacific line of British steamers, four in number, running from Valparaiso to Panama, touching at intermediate ports. This line connects overland from Panama to Chagres, with the West India line.

Besides these, there were, in 1848, twelve more lines of Government steamers running between Great Britain and the Continent of Europe; making a grand aggregate of 115 Ocean steamships fitted for war purposes. Very recently the British Parliament has resolved to extend the mail steamship system to Australia.

The Committee do not propose that our Government shall attempt to emulate this vast network of steam navigation with which England has already encompassed the globe. But it is believed that the recent increase of our territory, on the Pacific and in the Gulf of Mexico, forms an additional reason for a considerable augmentation of our steam navy, whether by a direct addition to the navy proper, or by the encouragement of lines of steam packets, to be established by private enterprise under the auspices of Government. If the latter system should be adopted, as already commenced, the ships will be built under the inspection of a Government officer, at the expense of private individuals; they will be commanded by officers in the navy, and will be at all times available for the public service. It will be the interest of the contractors to adopt, from time, to time, all the improvements which may be made in machinary and in the means of propulsion, and the ships will be kept in good repair. Besides being commanded by a naval officer, each ship will carry a sufficient number of midshipman for watch officers, and thus a very considerable portion of the *personnel* of the service will be kept actively employed, with the opportunity of acquiring the knowledge and skill requisite to the proper management of a steam navy. A corps of trained engineers and firemen will be attached to each ship, and no doubt these would generally remain with her when the ship should be called into the public service.

The Committee are of opinion that it is highly desirable to have ready for the public service some very large steamships of the description proposed by the memorialist. They would have great advantages over small ships to carry fuel sufficient for long voyages, and to transport large bodies of troops, and place them rapidly, in a fresh and vigorous condition, at any point where they might be required.

But it is chiefly for the great and beneficent objects of removing the free persons of color from this country to the coast of Africa, and of suppressing the Slave Trade, that the Committee are disposed to reccommend the adoption of the proposed measure. The latter of these has been the subject of treaties by our Government with other nations, with whom we have engaged to maintain a large naval force on the coast of Africa to assist in suppressing the inhuman traffic; while the emigration of the free blacks has long been an object of great interest in all parts of the country, and especially in the slaveholding States, where they are looked upon by the whites with aversion and distrust. The policy of all or most of these States has been to discourage manumission, except on condition of the removal of the liberated Slave. In no part of the Union do the free blacks enjoy an equality of political and social privileges; and in all the States their presence is neither agreeable to the whites nor advantageous to themselves. In some of the Slave States stringent prohibitions have been adopted, and unpleasant controversies with Free States have thereby been engendered. The emigration of this entire population beyond the limits of our country is the only effectual mode of curing these evils, and removing one cause of dangerous irritation between the different sections of the Union.

The Committee believe it is expedient to aid private enterprise in the colonization of the western coast of Africa, because it is the most effectual, if not the only mode, of extirpating the Slave Trade. The success of this measure will doubtless render the African Squadron wholly unnecessary, thus reimbursing a large portion of the expense attending it, and at the same time better accomplishing the object for which the squadron is maintained. It may be expedient for some one of the great naval powers to keep a small force on the coast of Africa to protect Liberia, for a limited time, against the Slave Traders. But the attempt to suppress this unlawful traffic by blockading the coast has so signally failed that it will probably be soon abandoned by the great European powers. While the influence of the Republic of Liberia has been shown in the complete suppression of the trade along a coast of several hundred miles in length, the combined squadrons of Europe and America have not been successful on other portions of that unhappy shore. In 1847 no less than 84,356 Slaves were exported from Africa to Cuba and Brazil. In the opinion of the Committee, it is highly important to prevent the further Africanizing of the American Continents. An opposite movement, so far as the free blacks are concerned, is far more in accordance with the spirit of the age, and with the best interests of all American Governments. The people of the United States have shown their strong aversion to the Slave Trade by the provision in their Constitution against it, and by their unremitting and vigorous efforts to suppress it. The success which has already crowned the infancy of Liberia, indicates the true mode of making those exertions effectual, while it opens up the way for restoring the free blacks to the native land of their fathers.

The Committee beg leave here to present some interesting facts which satisfy them that the territory of Liberia is eminently adapted to colored emigrants from the United States; that the establishment of this line of steamships by the Government will be a powerful stimulus to the cause of Colonization, and will be the means of securing the emigration of great numbers of free blacks; that the Slave Trade will be substituted by a peaceful, legitimate, valuable commerce, opening new sources of enterprise and wealth to our people; and that the civilization and christianization of the whole continent of Africa may be expected to follow. The facts collected are chiefly from the publications of the Colonization Society.

That portion of the Western coast of Africa, called Liberia, embraces a tract of country included between the parallels of 4 deg. 21 min. and 7 deg. North latitude, extending about 400 miles along the coast. The first settlement was made by free negroes from the United States, under the auspices of the American Colonization Society, in the year 1820. The objects of that Society were—

"*First:* To rescue the free colored people of the United States from their political and social disadvantages."

"*Second:* To place them in a country where they may enjoy the benefits of Free Government, with all the blessings which it brings in its train.

"*Third:* To spread civilization, sound morals, and true religion throughout the continent of Africa.

"*Fourth:* To arrest and destroy the Slave Trade.

"*Fifth:* To afford slave-owners, who wish, or are willing to liberate their slaves, an asylum for their reception."

The funds of this Society have seldom exceeded $50 000 per year, but they have purchased territory, by compact between the Colonization Society and the Republic, made when the Society ceded its territory to the Republic, ample power is reserved by the Society for the protection of emigrants who may be sent out by them. Moreover the authorities invite emigration, and each emigrant receives a donation of a tract of land.

The establishment of prosperous colonies on the western coast of Africa will, doubtless, tend greatly, in the course of time, to the augmentation of the commerce of this country. It appears that British commerce with Africa amounts to no less than 5,000,000 sterling, or about $25,000,000 per annum. The belief is now confidently entertained in Great Britain, that an immense commerce may be opened up with that continent, by putting an end to the Slave Trade, and stimulating the natives to the arts of peace.

The commerce of Africa is certainly capable of great extension, and it is worthy of observation, that the proposed steamers will open entirely new sources of trade.

On this subject, the Committee beg leave to submit the following particulars, from which the future resources of this vast undeveloped region may be, to some extent, anticipated.

Palm oil is produced by the nut of the Palm tree, which grows in the greatest abundance throughout Western Africa. The demand for it both in Europe and America, is daily increasing. The average import into Liverpool of palm oil for some years past has been at least 15,000 tons, valued at £400,000 sterling.

Gold is found at various points of the coast. It is obtained by the natives by washing the sands which is brought down by the rivers from the mountains. An exploration of the mountains will probably result in the discovery of large quantities of the metal. It is calculated that England has received, altogether, $200,000,000 of Gold from Africa. Liberia is adjacent to the "Gold Coast."

Ivory is procurable at all points, and constitutes an important staple of commerce.

Coffee, of a quality superior to the best Java or Mocha, is raised in Liberia, and can be cultivated with great ease to any extent. The coffee tree

[illegible] purchase as much more as he pleases at $1 per acre.

The climate is not suited to the whites. The President and all the officials are colored men. There are flourishing towns, churches, schools, and printing presses. According to the statement of Rev. R. R. Gurley, who has recently visited the Colony, the people are highly moral, well conducted, and prosperous, and the value of the exports of the Republic is at present $500,000 per annum, and is increasing at the rate of 50 per cent. annually.

Not only will the Slave Trade be abolished by the establishment of colonies of free colored people on the coast of Africa, but, as already intimated, these colonies will be the means, at no distant period, of disseminating civilization and Christianity throughout the whole of that continent. Already, a great many of the natives have placed themselves under the protection of the Liberians, whose knowledge of agriculture and the arts inspires confidence and respect.

As a missionary enterprise, therefore, the colonization of Africa by the descendants of Africans on this continent, deserves, and no doubt will receive, the countenance and support of the whole Christian world.

Two points are now regarded, both in Europe and in this country, as settled truths, viz: 1st, that the planting and building up of Christian Colonies on the coast of Africa is the only practical remedy for the Slave Trade. 2d, That colored men only can with safety settle upon the African coast.

That the free negroes of the United States will be induced to go in large numbers to Liberia, if a quick and pleasant passage by steam vessels be provided, and suitable preparation be made for them on their arrival by the Colonization Society, cannot admit of any doubt.

The funds of that Society, augmented probably twenty fold, will then be available, almost exclusively, for the comfortable establishment of the emigrants in their new homes—the expense of transportation chargeable to the Society being merely nominal.

It is estimated that there are no less than 500,000 free colored people in the several States, and that the annual increase therein of the black race is 70,000 per annum. With respect to slaves who may hereafter be manumitted, no doubt such manumission will, almost in every instance, be upon the condition that the parties shall avail themselves of the opportunity of emigrating to Liberia.

The Committee do not propose that the emigrants should be landed in Liberia and then left to their own resources. Liberia is at present incapable of receiving and providing shelter, subsistence and employment for any great number of emigrants who may land there in a state of destitution. It has been the practice heretofore, for the Colonization Society to provide for the colonists whom they have sent out, for six months after their arrival, and the cost of such provision has averaged $30 per head, in addition to the cost of transportation.

A large amount of money will be required to settle the colonists in the first instance comfortably in their new homes. But there is no doubt that if the Government establish the proposed line of steamships, the people of the different States and the State Legislatures will at once turn their attention to the subject of colonization, and that large appropriations will be voted and liberal collections made in aid of that object. The State of Maryland has already appropriated and laid out $200,000 in this work, and the Legislature of Virginia has lately appropriated $40,000 per year for the same purpose. But these sums are insignificant in comparison to what may be expected, if the Government shall give its high sanction to the colonization of Africa, and provide the means of transportation by a line of steamships. In that event, the whole mass of the people, North and South, who for the [illegible] capabilities of the[illegible] and prozpess, and ver the vast importance of Colonization, and will urge their representatives to adopt measures adequate to the exigency of the case and the magnitude of the enterprise.

The[illegible] good reason to anticipate, that important assistance will be rendered to the emigrants, not only by the missionary societies of Europe, but also by those Governments which have taken an interest in the suppression of the Slave Trade, and which are desirous of opening channels for their commerce, and marts for their manufactures, on the western coast of Africa.

It is estimated, that by the time when the first two ships are to be finished and ready for sea, there will be a large body of emigrants ready to take passage in them, and that for the next two years each ship will take from 1 000 to 1,500 passengers on each voyage, or from 8 000 to 12,000 in each of those years. To furnish each family, intending to devote themselves to agricultural pursuits, with a dwelling-house suitably furnished, and a piece of land of sufficient extent cleared and planted, together with the necessary agricultural implements and a stock of provisions, will, it is calculated, cost the Society a sum equal to $30 or $40 per head for each emigrant, allowing each family to consist of five persons. The cost of establishing families intending to follow trading and mechanical pursuits, will be somewhat less than the above estimate for agricultural families; but the average cost for the whole of the emigrants may be estimated at $50 per head, including all the expenses of transportation, making a total of from $400,000 to $500,000 per annum, *for the first two years.*

As the colony increases in population, and the interior of the country becomes settled, any number of emigrants that may be sent [illegible] will be readily absorbed, as there will be a demand for all kinds of laborers, mechanics and domestic servants, and it will be unnecessary to make that provision for them which is now indispensable.

The Colonization Society will, as heretofore, so regulate the [illegible] as to send out only a suitable person[illegible] up a due proportion between [illegible] sexes

The interior settlement of the purchased tracts usually extend from about 10 to 30 miles from the coast, and can easily be enlarged by purchase in that direction at a moderate amount. In no instance have the natives from whom the land was purchased been required to remove their residences. The land in the immediate vicinity of the ocean in Liberia is generally low, and in some places marshy—but there are some elevated spots. The land generally becomes more elevated toward the interior; and in some places within 50 miles of the coast it is quite mountainous. It is desirable for the colony to become possessed of this back country, as it is much healthier than the coast, and when the emigration from the United States becomes extensive, the mountain region will soon be occupied. The natives are a fine, healthy, athletic race; and even the emigrants to the lands on the coast have enjoyed better health than the emigrants to some of our Western States in the first few years of settlement.

Liberia is on the "grain coast," and is protected from the scorching winds of the north and east by ranges of mountains. The soil is fertile, and produces an abundance of Indian corn, yams, plantains, coffee, arrow-root, indigo, dyewoods, &c.

Every emigrant is welcomed to the colony, and receives a grant of five acres of land, besides which [illegible] become freeholder[illegible] to forty years, and yields an average of [illegible] pounds to the shrub yearly.

Camwood and other dye woods are found in great quantities in many parts of the country. About thirty miles east of Bassa Cove is the commencement of a region of unknown extent, where scarcely any tree is seen except the cam wood.

Gums of different kinds enter largely into commercial transactions.

Dyes of all shades and hues are abundant, and they have been proved to resist both acids and light.

Pepper, ginger, arrow root, indigo, tamarinda, oranges, lemons, limes, and many other articles which are brought from tropical countries to this, may be added to the list. Indeed, there is nothing in the fertile countries of the East or West Indies which may not be produced in equal excellence in Western Africa.

The soil is amazingly fertile. Two crops of corn, sweet potatoes, and several other vegetables, can be raised in a year. It yields a larger crop than the best soil in the United States. One acre of rich land well tilled, says Governor Ashman, will produce three hundred dollars' worth of Indigo. Half an acre may be made to grow half a tun of arrrow root.

"An immense market may be opened for the exchange and sale of the innumerable products of, the skill and manufactures of our people. Africa is estimated to contain one hundred and sixty millions of inhabitants. Liberia enjoys a favorable geographical position. She is protected by the great powers of Europe. The Liberians have constitutions adapted to the climate, and a similarity of color with the natives. They will penetrate the interior with safety, and prosecute their trade in the bays and rivers of the coast, without suffering from the diseases which are so fatal to the white man. Liberia is the door of Africa, and is destined to develop the agricultural and commercial resources of that continent, besides being the means of regenerating her benighted millions."

The foregoing remarks have related entirely to the advantages of the proposed measure. It is possible some scruples may be entertained in regard to its constitutionality. This, the Committee think, cannot be reasonably doubted. The Government has already adopted this mode of providing a powerful steam navy, at the same time giving incidental but important encouragement to great commercial interests. In this instance, the effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, and the withdrawal of the African squadron by the substitution of a number of mighty steamers regularly to that coast, afford a motive and a justification which do not exist in regard to any one of the lines already established.

It was the opinion of Mr. Jefferson that the United States had power to establish colonies for its free blacks on the coast of Africa, and he desired its exercise. Chief Justice Marshall and Mr. Madison concurred in this opinion. And it is to be observed that the first purchase in the Colony of Liberia was made by the Government of the United States. The opinions of the leading jurists of our day do not appear to differ from those of the great founders of the Constitution, who believed not only that indirect aid to the cause of colonization may be given in accordance with that instrument, but that the Government has power to establish the colonies themselves. The proposition of the Committee does not, by any means, go this extent. It goes no further than recently adopted and still existing operations of the Government, while it is believed to rest upon far higher and better grounds of support.

Nor does it involve any merely sectional considerations. The Committee have, therefore, refrained from expressing any views which might be considered favorable to the peculiar interests either of the North or of the South. The question of Slavery, now the cause of so deep an excitement, is not, to any extent, either directly or indirectly, involved. The Government of the United States, it is admitted on all hands, has no power to interfere with that proposition at all interfere with [illegible] emancipation. This is wholly beyond the jurisdiction of the Federal Government, and belongs exclusively to the people of the several States, and the individual slaveholders themselves. But the removal of the free blacks to the coast of Africa is a measure in which all sections and all interests are believed to be equally concerned.

From the foregoing considerations, the Committee believe it to be wise and politic to accept the proposition of the memorialists, with some modifications which meet their approval.

Instead of four ships, it is proposed to make the line consist of three, which shall make monthly trips to Liberia, touching on their return at certain points in Spain, Portugal, France and England, thus: one ship will leave New York every three months, touching at Savannah for freight and mails; one will leave Baltimore every three months, touching at Norfolk and Charleston for passengers, freight and mails; and one will leave New Orleans every three months, with liberty to touch at any of the West India islands. They will proceed directly to Liberia, with liberty to touch at any of the islands or ports of the coast of Africa; thence to Gibralter, carrying the Mediterranean mails; thence to Cadiz, or some other port of Spain, to be designated by the Government; thence to Lisbon; thence to Brest, or some other port of France, to be designated as above; and thence to London—bringing mails from all those points to the United States.

The measure proposed by the Committee contains the following stipulations and provisions, to wit:

Each ship to be of not less than 4,000 tuns burden, and the cost of each not to exceed $800,000.—The Government to advance two-thirds of the cost of construction, from time to time, as the building progresses—the advance to be made in five per cent. stocks payable at the end of thirty years—such advances to be repaid by the contractors in equal annual instalments, beginning and ending with the service. The said ships to be built in accordance with plans to be submitted to and approved by the Secretary of the Navy, and under the superintendence of an officer to be appointed by the Secretary of the Navy, and to be so constructed as to be convertible, at the least possible expense, into war steamers of the first class. The ships to be kept up by alterations, repairs, or additions, to be approved by the Secretary of the Navy, so as to be at all times fully equal to the exigencies of the service, and the faithful performance of the contract.

Each ship to be commanded by an officer of the Navy, who, with four passed midshipmen to serve as watch officers, shall be accommodated in a manner suitable to their rank, without charge to the Government. The Secretary of the Navy at all times to have the right to place on board of each ship two guns of heavy calibre, and the men necessary to serve them, to be accommodated and provided for by the contractors.

The Secretary of the Navy to exercise at all times such control over said ships as may not be inconsistent with these terms, and to have the right to take them, or either of them, in case of war, for the exclusive use and service of the United States, on paying the value thereof; such value not exceeding the cost, to be ascertained by appraisers mutually chosen by the Secretary and the contractors. The Secretary also to have power to direct, at the expense of the Government, such changes in the machinery and the internal arrangements of the said ships, or any of them, as he at any time, may deem advisable.

The contractors are further required to stipulate to carry, on each and every voyage they may make, so many emigrants, being free persons of color, and not exceeding 2,500 for each voyage, as the American Colonization Society may send; the said Society paying in advance $10 for each emigrant over twelve years of age, and $5 for each one under that age; these sums to include the transportation of baggage, and the daily supply of sailors' rations.

The constructors also to convey, free from cost such necessary agents as the Government or the Colonization Society may require, upon each one of said ships.

Two of said ships to be finished and ready for sea within two and a half years, and the other within three years after the execution of the contract.

The Government to pay $40,000 for each and every trip; and to exact ample security for the faithful performance of the contract, beside taking a lien on the ships for the repayment of the sums advanced. The contract to continue 15 years from the completion of all the ships.

To assist in forming a correct judgment as to the fairness of this compensation, the Committee present an estimate of the probable cost of running the said ships.

The cost of the ships at $900,000 will be $2,700,000. Upon this amount interest should be calculated at 6 per cent.; for, although the contractors will pay the Government but five per cent. on the portion advanced, the balance supplied by the contractors, must be estimated at the rates in New York and New Orleans, which are above six per cent. Six per cent. will be a fair average for the whole.

The depreciation of this kind of property is estimated variously, sometimes as high as 10 per cent. per annum on the total cost; but as these ships will be substantially built for war purposes, it may be estimated at a lower rate.

Beside this, an allowance must be made for repairs. New boilers will be required every six years, and the substitution of these for the old ones not only causes loss of time, but also injury to the ships, involving much expense.

The rate of insurance for this species of property is high. The Committee are informed that the steamships Ohio and Georgia pay 8 1-2 per cent.

Add the expense of running the ships, viz, fuel, wages of the crew, provisions, stores, dock, charges, harbor dues, agents, pilotage, light house dues, &c. which cannot be estimated at less than $50,000 per voyage, considering that the distance to Liberia, and thence home, via., Madeira, Gibralter, Cadiz, Lisbon, Brest and London, is about 12,000 miles, and that each voyage, with the necessary delays in the various ports, will occupy about three months.

STATEMENT OF EXPENSES.

Interest on the $2,700,000, at 6 per cent	$162,000
Depreciation and Repairs, 10 per cent	270,000
Insurance 7 per cent	189,000
Cost of running the ships, $50,000 per voyage, 12 voyages per annum	600,000
Total annual expense	$1,221,000

PROFITS.

Estimating 1,500 passengers for each voyage, and 12 voyages per annum, we have 18,000 passengers. These, $10 for adults and $5 for children may average a profit of $3 each, making	$54,000
Government pay	480,000
	534,000
Balance of expense over Government pay and profit of emigrants	$687,000

Thus it will be seen that the contractors will have, of their probable expenses, more than two thirds of a million, or $57,250 each voyage, to be made by commerce and passengers, independent of the Government pay and the profit from the Colonization Society. It is quite evident that any farther profit, beyond the ordinary rate of interest at 6 per cent. will be contingent upon the success of the enterprise in a simulating commerce with the United States at the points regularly touched by these steamers. The contractors have confidence in this, and the committee do not doubt that their confidence will be rewarded to a reasonable extent.

It will be observed that, as the Colonization Society now pay for the transportation of emigrants to Liberia, in sailing vessels, no less than $30 per head, the proposed arrangement will make the actual cost eventually less than this, even adding the amount to be paid by the United States for this service, to the amount to be paid by the said Society, without estimating the receipt from mails, which will probably be large.

At the commencement of operations, when it is estimated that the first two ships will carry out 1,000 or 1,500 emigrants for each voyage, the cost will be little more than it is at present, while the passage [illegible] upon the shores of Liberia in a sound and efficient condition.

As the capacity of the colony to receive a large number of emigrants increases, the ratio of expense will be diminished; and it cannot be doubted that, eventually, as the number of emigrants will increase, the cost of transportation will relatively diminish.

The Committee do not recommend the acceptance of the proposition of the memorialists, that they shall be permitted to import the produce of Liberia into this country free of duty; on the contrary, it is believed to be better, for obvious reasons, to enter into no such stipulations, but to confine the remuneration, whatever it may be, to a direct payment of money.

In the above estimates, the Committee have endeavored, as far as possible, to arrive at just conclusions, while at the same time, in view of the [illegible] public objects to be attained by the establishment of the proposed line of steamships, they have not deemed it inconsistent with the just liberality of the Government, that those who have had the sagacity to conceive, and who have the ability faithfully to carry out this noble project, should have at least a contingent opportunity of deriving a handsome profit for their enterprise. Considering the hazards involved in it, the Committee believe their estimates to be fair and just to both parties.

The Committee report a bill accordingly, to which they ask the favorable consideration of the House.

Reported from the Committee by
FRED. P. STANTON, Chairman.

Washington, July 23, 1850.

A DEBATE ON THE 'HIGHER LAW.'

Below we present, from the report of the *Washington Union*, an interesting debate on Mr. SEWARD's proposition to admit the State of New Mexico by the proclamation of the President. Mr. BRADBURY's amendment to the Omnibus, providing for a Commission to settle the Texas boundary question, being under consideration.

Mr. SEWARD rose and said: I submit the following amendment to the amendment of the Senator from Maine:

Insert after the word "That," in the first line, the following:

New Mexico shall, on proclamation by the President of the United States, be admitted as a State into this Union, on an equal footing with the original States: *Provided*, That the President, before issuing such proclamation, shall be satisfied that the Constitution recently framed by the Convention of New Mexico has been approved and ratified by the people of New Mexico in the election held for the purpose of considering it on the 20th of June last.

The effect of this amendment is to bring before the Senate a great and important question—that is, the admission of New Mexico, as one of the States of this Union, upon an equal footing with the original States, and under the Constitution which she has already adopted. I have heard, Mr. President, much said here about nationality, national sympathies, national principles, and national feelings; and so far as such sympathies, principles, and feelings are concerned, they obtain my highest respect and admiration. But I differ very much from many who bestow that commendation without regard to what interests, principles, and feelings, those are which deserve the character of the nationality. So far as I have heard, it has been generally bestowed not so much upon those principles and measures which are designed to give permanence to the institutions of the country, as upon such as contain some expedient, some compromise for the present hour, and for a temporary purpose.

In such sympathies and feelings I have no part. I do not participate in them at all, and for the reason that I believe that compromise for to-day, postponement for to-day, only increases the embarrassment and the evils of to-morrow. It is my desire that this great question, thus brought before the Senate, may now be definitely settled. I know that it may be said that this proposition comes prematurely before the Senate, inasmuch as the Senate has no official information that a Constitution has been adopted by the People of New Mexico; but while this is true, and therefore there would be a propriety in delaying the proceedings in order to receive official information from the President of the United States of the adoption of the Constitution, and that the Constitution itself might be laid before us for our approval. I feel myself obliged to bring the question thus prematurely before the Senate, for the reason that the subject is prematurely before the Senate, and that the bill which is now under consideration provides for a disposition of this subject which will prevent the bestowal of a just consideration upon the claims of New Mexico, when they shall be presented here with official authority and in due form and force. It is not my fault, therefore, that the question springs upon the Senate now. If this whole matter of the boundary of Texas and of the Territory of New Mexico could be severed from the bill, then the whole subject might well be postponed until it should come up properly for disposition at a more suitable time and in the customary form.

Mr. President, the effect of the bill before the Senate is to postpone all questions about the admission of New Mexico until after the report of commissioners, and after the action of Congress upon the report of the commissioners, and by that time there may be no New Mexico to be admitted. Now, sir, I am opposed to the delay thus proposed, because in the first place, I believe it inconsistent with the rights and interests of the people of New Mexico. The Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. Hale) has truly stated the rights of that people. They are a conquered and a subjugated people; but they are, notwithstanding, a people possessing rights that are as important to them as the rights of the citizens of any Territory or any State within the United States. It is only a change of their sovereignty that has been effected. When the people of New Mexico lost their rights secured to them by the Constitution of New Mexico, they acquired the rights of American citizens, secured by the Constitution of the United States, and those rights involved the protection of their property and the preservation of their liberty, and the protection of their Territory from invasion. All these are rights of which the United States can deprive no community on earth. They may extend their conquering arm over States, and territories, and provinces, but it carries with it freedom and security, and the guarantees of them. Now, sir, in regard to the rights of the people of New Mexico if they had not been secured by treaty, they would have been still secured by the obligations arising out of the law of nature and of nations. These rights are secured not only by the law of nations, but they are secured moreover, by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The United States found New Mexico a territory or province of the empire of Mexico, and they stipulated by the treaty with Mexico, and of course with the people of the provinces of Mexico, that they should be protected in all their rights, and that they should be admitted to the rights of citizens, and that they should have a government established over them. Now, sir, the proposition which I submit is to incorporate New Mexico as a State; but I resist the proposition contained in the bill, which is to incorporate New Mexico as territory of the United States. I submit, in the first place, that the proposition contained in the amendment and laid upon your table is the only one which is most harmonious and congenial with the treaty—with a fair and just construction of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. What is the language of that treaty? It is not that the Territory of New Mexico, or that the provinces of New Mexico and California, shall be admitted into the United States as Territories; but it is that they shall be admitted as States. The treaty contains no provision and no allusion whatever to bringing them into a provincial or territorial condition. It is a fair construction of the treaty to say that it contemplated admission of the territories not as territories or provinces, but as States, upon an equal footing with the original States; for it is fair to presume that if the United States had contemplated that New Mexico and California [illegible] pressed. I know that the United States have held in a territorial vassalage under Congress the right to judge of the time to admit them as States; but that is all that it did reserve—the right to determine the time when. Well, sir, the time when is when these provinces are left in just exactly the condition that they now are deprived of any effective government, and exposed to great danger. In the next place sir, the provision contained in the amendment was most compatible and harmonious with the Constitution of the United States. It is a remarkable feature of the Constitution of the United States, that its framers never contemplated a Territory—never contemplated a Territory or Colony; but, on the other hand, contemplated nothing but States—perfect States—equal States, and, as they are called here, Sovereign States. There was a domain belonging to the United States, which was, for temporary purposes, and until it should be inhabited, (at the time of the formation of the Constitution of the United States,) set off for the purpose of being organized into a Territory—the Northwest Territory; but that was regarded as only a temporary measure, and ancilliary to the establishment of five new States within that territory. There is reason—there is wisdom in this provision of the Constitution excluding Colonies which are subject always to oppression, and excluding Provinces, which always tend to corrupt and inevitably and ultimately to drag down the parent State. Then, the proposition which I submit is congenial with the treaty—truly congenial and compatible with the Constitution of the United States—and the proposition to establish a territorial form of Government over this People is in violation of the spirit of the treaty and of the Constitution. But, sir, New Mexico is entitled to be admitted into the Union under that treaty, because it cannot be regarded as a treaty stipulating or contemplating an oppressive exercise of the right of Congress in defining the time of admission, but a reasonable exercise of it—the exercise of a sound discretion for the good of the People with whom the stipulation and covenant were made. It is a covenant for their protection and benefit, and not a stipulation for their oppression and ruin. What, then, is the time when New Mexico ought to be admitted? That time has come, sir, when the admission of New Mexico, not as a province, is necessary to save the liberty of the people and the integrity of her territory. That is the time, and that time has now come; for both are in danger. The liberties of New Mexico are in danger of being subverted by an absorption by the State of Texas, and her actual existence is endangered by the efforts of that State to bring about her subjugation by force. What answer shall be given to me upon this point, sir? There is no answer, except it be that New Mexico is not in a condition to be admitted. But New Mexico fulfils all the conditions which you have ever required for the admission of any State into the Union. There is but one condition which the Constitution recognizes, and that is that she shall present a Republican form of Government. New Mexico fulfills that condition. You have before you established precedents by which you have required a population of a given amount of numbers to constitute a State. That number is a number sufficient to elect one member of Congress. New Mexico fulfills that condition; for she has a hundred thousand souls—she has a population larger than Texas when that community was admitted as a State. She has a population two-thirds as large as that of Texas. Sixty thousand citizens were needful to entitle the State of Ohio to admission—sixty thousand were all that were required for Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, and Florida; and New Mexico exceeds them all by more than two-thirds of the number required. But we have been told that the condition of these people was such that they were unfit for self-government, and therefore should be denied admission. Sir, it is too late to raise that objection. They are citizens of the United States; and no man maintaining the capacity of man for self-government can maintain that ninety thousand people—citizens of the United States, recognized as such by its Constitution, its treaties, and its laws—are incapable of the functions of self-government. I know that it is said that you will govern them better than they could govern themselves; and how will you govern them better?—What is the guaranty that you are offering them of

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governing them better than they can govern themselves? It is the proposition to dismember their territory and to subvert their Constitution. They are a mingled population—a population marked by the extra-characteristics which have resulted from the extraordinary system of colonization and of government maintained by Old Spain in her provinces—a policy peculiarly different from our own, and marked by very different results in its influences upon the people. The settlement of the colonies of Spain proceeded altogether from a thirst for gold, and nothing else. The government which Spain exercised over the colonies was the government of jealous, arbitrary authority, exercised for the purpose solely of deriving the utmost possible profit from her colonies. The colonization of these States was the result of an ardent thirst, not for gold, but for liberty; and the consequences which resulted are seen in the widely different character of the two populations. The people of the United States have grown up by slow degrees. It was one hundred and twenty years after the first attempt at colonization by the Anglo-Saxons before any form of well-established institutions were found on this continent. The career of the Spaniards, on the other hand, was brilliant and successful. The whole of the Spanish portion of this continent rose into viceroyalties, which were filled with wealth, and splendor, and pride.

But after the lapse of another hundred years, we see that the Anglo-Saxon power has gone on steadily increasing, until it has converted the whole or a large portion of the northern part of the continent by subjugation, while the Spanish portion is decaying and declining, and falls an easy prey to conquest. The Anglo-Saxon colonization left the native inhabitants of these countries out of its sympathy, and it left them barbarous and savage, and they remained so. But the peculiar influences of the religion which the colonists of Spain carried into her new territories operated successfully in winning the Indians to Christianity and to partial civilization; and we have, therefore, this extraordinary fact, that while we exclude Indians or aborigines from the possession of liberty and the rights of citizens in our own States and in our own country, we have conquered the aborigines in Spanish portions of the continent for the purpose of making them citizens, and have extended to them the rights of citizens. So, Sir, the population of New Mexico consists of some two thousand people of the European race, and chiefly Anglo-Saxons, then of some ten thousand of the Creoles, or the descendants of the Spanish colonists, and sixty-thousand Indians, more or less mixed in blood, but civilized and christianized. My motion, sir, is to bring this extraordinary and peculiar population into the United States as a State of this Union; and it is a motion upon which I shall stand, and stand so long as grace and strength are given me to stand for anything. But, sir, if the question were now whether this people should be invited to a share in the Government of this Union, I should answer no. If the question was whether the Public Treasury should pour forth money to bring this population into this Union as a State, I should say no. Still more, if the proposition were to conquer this people, to bring them into the Union, I should resist to the last. But those questions have all gone by. You have bought, you have conquered, and you have stipulated to bring them in, not as Territories, as Provinces, but as States. You cannot do this except you give them the power of a State—the privileges and prerogatives of a State. They are, according to all histories and all travellers, an inoffensive, timorous and docile people. They are, in many of these respects, very different from the population of the United States. The question now is, not whether they shall be governed by us, but what the form of Government that is to be exercised over them. That is the only question. You can secure to them the same rights of citizenship, the rights of property, and protection of their territory effectually, in no other way but by giving them the Constitution of a State. This bill betrays upon its face—the whole debate betrays—the truth of this proposition. Sir, New Mexico is obliterated from the memory of the Senate of the United States. It is a name no longer to be announced here; it is a name no longer to be spoken; and the Territory of New Mexico is now spoken of not as New Mexico, but as a vacant territory of the United States. But New Mexico has just exactly the same rights, in coming into this Union, that Texas had. She is annexed by conquest and Texas by treaty; but Texas was admitted into the Union by treaty as a State, and New Mexico was admitted into the Union by treaty to be converted into a State. There is, then, only one question arising out of this subject; and that is whether it is necessary for the protection of the people of New Mexico that they shall be admitted into the Union. I say there is no one who opposes the interests of New Mexico. There is a boundary in dispute between the people of New Mexico and Texas. The Government of the United States is now engaged in providing for the settlement of that boundary. Texas is a State, and is represented here, and she is invited to appoint Commissioners, as an equal of the United States, for the settlement of this boundary. New Mexico, the equal of Texas in right, in justice, in position, and in everything except the fact that you have not given to her the State Government you have engaged to give, is unrepresented before you and among you and for that reason alone. She is unrepresented in this hall—she is unrepresented in either Chamber of Congress. Her voice is not heard in the election of a Chief Magistrate; she has no Representative; and yet you are entertaining the question of the dismemberment of her territory, and the subjugation of a great part of it to Texas, without even giving to New Mexico a hearing. Fulfil your treaty engagement; bring New Mexico in as a State, and let her be heard in this debate. Let us hear *her* wrongs; let us hear the story of *her* grievances. I have no doubt that it will be as eloquent—I am sure it will be as just—as the expositions of the rights of Texas which we hear every day. Bring New Mexico here, then, before you decide upon her fate. Give her a hearing. "Strike," if you will, but "hear."

If you bring in New Mexico as a State, as she is entitled to come, you have then a security that justice will be done by your Commissioners. If you amend your bill by allowing her, as I have provided in my amendment, to appoint Commissioners equal in authority and power and dignity with those of Texas, then the United States will stand equal and impartial between these two contestants—these two interests. Who will refuse a proposition, conceived in justice, like this? Admit New Mexico, and then you can pass this bill without denying to New Mexico the justice that you profess to be willing to award to Texas. But, sir, bring New Mexico into the United States, and you will have removed all difficulties in the way of settling this question judicially. The Constitution and laws provide for the settlement of this question, and provide for the settlement of it by law, without the interposition of the military arms of the State. Texas will find a respondent whenever she chooses to file a bill in the Supreme Court of the United States to assert her claim to that Territory. New Mexico will go before that august tribunal, and will stand in an attitude very different from that which she maintains here. Here the laws of the land will regard her as an equal, and Texas as an equal, and each as equal to the United States. Her Representative, appointed by herself, has in vain sought admission to the House of Representatives. With the fact before you, known to you, known to the world, acknowledged in this very debate this day, that the people of New Mexico are on their way here with their Constitution, by two Senators and a Representative, to lay their rights and wrongs before you, I implore you to wait. You are consuming all the hours of this day—every day—in anticipating their arrival, in order so be able to say to New Mexico that the door was shut before she arrived. This, sir, is the justice and this is the magnanimity of the United States of America! This the magnanimity which is shown to a conquered and a helpless and harmless people! Sir, there is not in the history of the Roman Empire an ambition for aggrandizement so marked as that which has distinguished the career of the American People! There is not in Roman history a transaction so unjust as this. What is the reason—what is the policy of such untimely haste—such violent haste?

The question we are upon is not with New Mexico: it does not concern New Mexico. New Mexico is a stranger to it. The question before us, and which has engaged us from the commencement of the session until now, and which threatens to engage us to the end of the session, is not the admission of New Mexico, or the settlement of the boundaries of New Mexico, but the right of California to be admitted into the Union. Detach this question from both, and leave the measure to stand upon its own merits, and leave the bill to contain only the measures which are necessary, and you will afford New Mexico the time to arrive here, and to give her a hearing; and if then you pronounce against her, she must submit, because from that decision there is no appeal. Well, sir, what apology can be offered for this violation of the rights of New Mexico? It is said that we are to preserve peace, sir. How is peace to be preserved by the exclusion of New Mexico from a hearing, and giving notice to the whole world that you have refused to admit her to a participation in this Commission and determined to reject her Constitution, to disorganize her Government, and then, after a lapse of a year, or two or three years, that Commission comes back, bringing with it all the excitement of this hour, together with the increased excitement consequent upon agitation throughout this broad land—agitation increased by new injustice? Sir, those who expect to make peace in this way, in my judgment,

——"Stem the stream with sand,
And bind the flame with flaxen band."

There will be no peace, unless a hearing is given to New Mexico.

I know, sir, that the Constitution of New Mexico is not here. That is not her fault, nor my fault. It is enough that she has a Constitution, a Constitution of her own choice, that fact is known; and my amendment provides for ascertaining the adoption of the Constitution by official authority, in an official and conclusive way. It provides for the admission of New Mexico, when her Constitution shall be offered here and filed in the Department of State, by a proclamation to that effect issued by the President of the United States. All the world knows the contents of the Constitution of New Mexico historically; and although it would be more regular to have the Constitution before us to examine its provisions, yet if the question must be whether New Mexico shall be admitted now or never, then I say she is entitled to be admitted conditionally, upon her Constitution being presented.

Now, sir, it is due to myself to say that while I present this claim in behalf of New Mexico, it is not my choice nor my wish to bring that great question into this bill of Compromise. Even with the admission of New Mexico, under the circumstances, the bill would be obnoxious to all the reasons upon which I have opposed the bill, and I should still oppose it. But if the bill is to pass, then I ask that it may pass with the amendment to protect and secure the rights of New Mexico, otherwise so sure to be lost. It will be seen that I do not ask you to define or even admit the boundaries of New Mexico as she has defined them in her Constitution. I do not desire to prescribe boundaries for New Mexico. I have drawn my amendment so as to provide for carrying out the execution of the design of the Senator from Maine (Mr. Bradbury) in regard to the whole controversy, by providing that New Mexico shall be admitted when she shall have brought a Constitution here, and that Commissioners of the United States shall meet not only the Commissioners of Texas, but the Commissioners of New Mexico, and that they shall ascertain the true boundary, and that their proceedings shall be valid and binding upon all the parties when they shall be approved by the United States, and by the States of New Mexico and Texas.

Nor do I intend to involve the fate of New Mexico in the fate of this bill. My proposition is only an amendment to the amendment of the Senator from Maine. I shall, in any event, vote against that, and against the bill. But if it must pass in the form contemplated by the amendment, then I want New Mexico to be protected by it as I have proposed. If the bill shall, on the other hand, be lost altogether, then New Mexico will have lost nothing by the effort made by me in her behalf.

Mr. Pratt—I desire to say a word, sir, as to what I conceive to be the most extraordinary propositions ever submitted to this body. I apprehend that such a proposition would not have emanated from any other source than that from which it has come. I feel confident that when the yeas and nays are taken, as I intend to move before I take my seat that they shall be, the Senator from New York, (Mr. Seward) will stand alone; because I am sure that there is no other member of this body who has at least advanced openly to the body his utter disregard of the Constitution and his oath to support it. Upon two occasions, as it is known to every member of the Senate, the Senator from New York has announced here that from the origin of this Government there have been two organized principles, warring one against the other, which must result in the course of time in the destruction by the more powerful of those principles of the other. The principle of human liberty, as he terms it, and the assumption in the Constitution of the universal equality of man, he has avowed to be the higher law, which he feels himself constrained to obey, although it may conflict with the express provisions of the Constitution and his oath to support that instrument. For example, he believes and admits that the Constitution of the United States recognizes kingly power [illegible] the States. Yet, inasmuch as this higher law, this principle of human liberty, comes in conflict with that constitutional prohibition, he says that he should be bound by this higher law, and he would disregard the Constitution of his country; he would disregard the oath which he has taken to support it before he took his seat here; and he would vote for that admitted unconstitutional act—the Abolition of Slavery within the States of this Union. I think, then, Mr. President, that I am right in assuming that no other Senator upon this floor would have offered the proposition upon which I am now about to comment; because it is in every one of its features directly subversive of every Constitutional provision in reference to the formation of States.

Mr. Seward (interposing)—Will the Senator allow me a word of explanation?

The President—Does the Senator from Maryland yield the floor?

Mr. Pratt assented.

Mr. Seward—Mr. President, I distinctly deny that I have ever, on this floor or elsewhere, maintained one solitary principle of all the principles which have been put in my mouth and charged upon me by the Senator from Maryland.

Mr. Pratt—Why, sir, then the honorable Senator should be very much obliged to me for giving him an opportunity of denying what is universally believed here. Does the Senator deny that he has said and reiterated here that there is a law above the Constitution, which he felt bound to obey? Does he deny that?

Mr. Seward—Yes, sir, I deny that.

[Mr. S. states that he understood Mr. P. to have added the words "when it conflicts with the Constitution," and replied accordingly.—Rep.]

Mr. Pratt—Then, sir, he denies, Mr. President, what every man knows he has said. I have heard him say it over and over again; and the Senator's denial does not make untrue what I assert I have heard him say, that there was a higher law.

Mr. Seward (in his seat)—I do not deny that.

Mr. Pratt—I call upon every Senator who hears me to say whether the Senator from New York did not say there was a higher law; a higher law than the Constitution, which he felt bound to obey when it came in conflict with the Constitution.

Mr. Seward—(in his seat)—I did not.

Mr. Pratt—I call upon any Senator upon this floor, other than the Senator from New York, to deny that he said so.

Mr. Baldwin—As the appeal has been made to other Senators, I must say, simply, that I did not understand the sentiment uttered by the Senator from New York as it has been stated by the Senator from Maryland.

Mr. Foote, (in his seat)—Everybody else did.

Mr. Pratt—I do not know what the Senator from Connecticut means by the disavowal. If he means that my commentary upon what the Senator has said is not exactly correct, that may be so. But that Senator cannot deny that he heard the Senator from New York say there was a higher law than the Constitution, which he felt bound to obey when it came in conflict with the Constitution.

Mr. Baldwin—I happen not to have a copy of the speech of the Senator from New York here, and I cannot of course be expected to give the precise words. I understood the Senator to state that there was a higher law than the Constitution, which was in harmony with the provisions of the Constitution.

Mr. Pratt—Now, Mr. President, it will be in the recollection of every one who hears me, that in the second speech which was made by the Senator from New York—one which displayed all that preparation which I think every Senator should give to everything they are about to utter in this body—which, if it had been displayed in a better cause, would have been worthy of his country—he reiterated the sentiment contained in his first speech, and there uttered the sentiment I have stated, that there were two antagonist principles ingrafted originally in the Constitution, and those two antagonist principles were the alleged equality of man and the principle of domestic Slavery—the recognition of domestic Slavery.

Now, Mr. President, he avowed further, and I think that every one here will agree with me, that whenever these antagonist principles of which he was speaking came in conflict with the Constitution, the higher law would be obeyed by him in preference to the Constitution itself. I have spoken of this matter to all the friends of that Senator, and this is the first time I ever heard any one say he understood him differently from what I have stated. I have mentioned it to them with the announcement of the intention on my part to move the expulsion of that Senator as a member of this body. I have stated that when that Senator took his seat here, he was bound, as we were, to comply with that article of the Constitution which says that Senators, before they take their seats, shall swear to support the Constitution. I have said to then that if, when he came to the book to take that oath, if he had refused to take the oath, he could not have taken his seat; or if he had promulgated to the Senate the reservation which he now makes or has hitherto made, with reference to this superior law, so as to make invalid that oath, there is not a Senator that would have permitted him to take it. Therefore, sir, if he had not concealed his understanding of the obligations which he was about to take upon himself, he would not have been permitted to take his seat here. I contended for this with his friends, and none of them said I was wrong in the facts. I contended that with those opinions we ought to turn him out of the body, as he never should have taken his seat here.

Mr. President, I now come to the amendment, which is this:

Insert, after the word "That," in the first line, the following:

New Mexico shall, on proclamation by the President of the United States, be admitted as a State into this Union, on an equal footing with the original States. *Provided*, That the President, before issuing such proclamation, shall be satisfied that the Constitutten recently framed by the Convention of New Mexico has been approved and ratified by the People of New Mexico in the election held for the purpose of considering it, on the 20th of June last.

Here, then, sir, is a proposition that Congress should admit New Mexico as a State into this Union with a Constitution which Congress has never seen, establishing boundaries not known to the Senate or to any one else; that we should direct the President of the United States to proclaim the admission of New Mexico as a State, with whatever boundaries she may choose to assume, even if they include half or two-thirds of Texas and whether that Constitution is Republican in its form or not, provided he shall believe that the people of New Mexico are willing. Therefore, if they have established a Government not Republican in its form—a kingly Government—the provision of the Constitution which says that we shall admit no State which is not Republican in its form, or, if by its boundaries it includes a part of Texas, that provision of the Constitution which prohibits separating from the limits of any State, without the assent of that State, are to be disregarded, and New Mexico is still to be admitted as a State by proclamation, although she does segregate parts of other States without the assent of those States, and although her Constitution may not be in a Republican form. Am I not right, then, in saying that no one—except the Senator from New York—entertaining his opinions could submit a proposition like this? Am I not right in saying that there is no Senator upon this floor—and I ask the yeas and nays to see if there is any one—who will vote for an amendment directly violative of these two clauses of the Constitution to which I have referred?

Mr. President, I have desired upon all occasions, and I am sure that it is still my determination to cultivate toward my brother Senators feelings of harmony and respect, so far as I am capable of entertaining them. I will not say—I will not pretend to say—that such feelings can be entertained by me with reference to such a proposition as this or to the Member of the Senate who made it.

Mr. Dayton—Mr. President——

The President—Did the Senator from Maryland ask for the Yeas and Nays?

Mr. Pratt—Yes, sir.

Mr. Dayton—Mr. President, I have a request—

The President—The Senator will suspend until it is ascertained whether the Yeas and Nays are ordered.

The Yeas and Nays were then ordered.

Mr. Dayton—After the Yeas and Nays are ordered, the request I have to make cannot be complied with. I meant merely to ask the Senator from New York whether it would not be better for him to withdraw his proposition.

Mr. Clay (in his seat)—I object.

Mr. Pratt—(in his seat)—The Yeas and Nays have been ordered.

Mr. Seward—If there is any proposition I have ever made, any measure I have ever proposed, which I am willing to stand by here, before the country and the world, it is the proposition I have now submitted. Therefore, though I stand alone, I shall be content, convinced that I stand right.

I do not propose to reply to what is personal to myself in the remarks of the honorable Senator from Maryland. I have nothing of a personal character to say. There is no man in this land who is of sufficient importance to this country and to mankind to justify his consumption of five minutes of the time of the Senate at this period of the discussion with personal explanations relating to himself. When the Senator made his remarks, I rose to express to him the fact that he was under a misapprehension. The speeches which I have made here, under a rule of the Senate, are recorded, and what is recorded has gone before the people, and will go, worthy or not, into history. I leave them to mankind. I stand by what I have said. This is all I have to say upon that subject.

The Senator proposes to expel me. I am ready to meet that trial; and if I am expelled, I shall not be the first man subject to a punishment for maintaining that there is a moral[illegible] that rulers and[illegible] or elected rulers of a free people, are bound to administer justice for the benefit of Society. Senators, when they please to bring me for trial, or otherwise, before the Senate of the United States, will find a clear and open field. I ask no other defense than the speeches upon which they propose to condemn me. The speeches will read for themselves, and they will need no comment from me.

Mr. President, the objection which is made to the proposition which I have submitted to the Senate is this: that it may bring into the United States a royal or kingly Government. Sir, here is the Constitution of New Mexico, sent to me by one who attended the Convention of New Mexico. I have just as good evidence to satisfy me that this is the real Constitution of New Mexico as I had to satisfy me that the honorable Senator from Maryland had been elected a member of this branch of the Legislature when I heard his credentials read.

Now, sir, I am prepared to answer the only argument of the honorable Senator from Maryland against the admission of New Mexico, which is, that the Constitution of New Mexico may be one creating a kingly government, if the honorable Senator does not disdain to examine a Constitution not officially laid before the Senate. It begins with these words:

We, the people of New Mexico, in order to establish justice, promote the welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity—

This, so far, is the language of the Constitution of the United States. Then it proceeds to utter what the Senator from Maryland will consider a dangerous heresy:

Acknowledging with grateful hearts the goodness of the Sovereign Ruler of the Universe, and imploring His aid and direction in its accomplishment, do ordain and establish the following Constitution.

We see that here are a people who acknowledge a higher power than the Constitution.

Mr. Pratt, (interposing)—Does the Senator mean to say that I consider that a heresy?

Mr. Seward—I say that the Senator characterized what I said as heresy when I expressed precisely this opinion.

Mr. Pratt—Will the Senator yield the floor a moment?

Mr. Seward—Certainly; but I give the Senator notice that I shall make no answer.

Mr. Pratt—Mr. President, when one asserts, I am sorry to say, what he knows to be untrue——

Several Senators—Order! order!

Mr. Pratt—I beg pardon Mr. President——

Mr. Seward—I hope the Senator may be permitted to proceed.

Mr. Pratt—I was about to say that when a Senator makes an application to myself which is not correct, with the assertion upon the part of that Senator that nothing I can say well induce him to reply, I feel that proper respect to myself should induce me to say nothing.

Mr. Seward—These people of New Mexico then say they have "established a Government for the purpose of establishing Justice, securing the blessings of Liberty for themselves and for posterity, and that they acknowledge the superintending power of the Sovereign Ruler of the Universe, and invoke His blessing."

Mr. Dayton—It is no part of my duty to make any comment upon any course which any Senator may think in his best judgment to be advisable; but I cannot but feel that when we are acting jointly on reference to a measure, we have something in common, and that there is something to each other; and it seems to me that it would have been better if the Senator from New York had consulted the views of those who have concurred generally in their action upon this measure, and have avoided offering this proposition at this time. This amendment belongs altogether to a different line of policy, and the whole effect of offering it at this time is to put the vote before the country infinitely feebler than if the proposition were to stand alone. Why, sir, I cannot vote for this amendment, while at the same time I do not want to vote against the admission of New Mexico as a State, as an alternative. I cannot vote for this amendment to the bill; and I put it to the Senator from New York, what is the effect of this amendment, supposing you pass it and incorporate it in this bill? Why, sir, you adopt your own amendment, and this main line of policy; and the Senator himself and others will have to vote against the Omnibus bill. Now, in what position are we placed? I submit, with very great respect, that it would have been better and easier not to have mixed up this question with the Omnibus bill. Let us stand alone upon our own or a different policy. I do not wish to vote for this bill. I do not wish to vote against the admission of New Mexico as a State, under proper circumstances, as a mere alternative.

But I am unwilling to vote for this amendment for another reason. I do think this matter is premature. I am unwilling to transfer to the President of the United States, or to any other power on earth, that right which the Constitution has imposed upon us to judge whether the Constitution of a State offering herself here is republican or not. The Constitution of the United States makes it necessary that Congress should pronounce upon that question. How, in the name of God, can we transfer that Constitutional duty to the Executive, and then satisfy our consciences and our Constitutional obligations to that Constitution? I cannot do that yet.

Again: I am unwilling to place the *onus* of judging the question of boundary, and other provisions of this Constitution, upon the President. This amendment only says that if the President shall be satisfied that the People of New Mexico have approved of some Constitution, (what Constitution it does not say, and we do not know, because the paper from which the Senator has read has no official character,) he shall admit them as State by proclamation.

Mr. President, I regret very much that the Senator should have felt it his duty to embarrass us in this matter. I do not complain of it, because he has exercised only his just and legitimate rights upon this floor. The effect of this thing is to drive those to vote against New Mexico, with the admission of California, who, if the question were separated and stood alone, and she, with her Republican Constitution, properly authenticated, came forward, would feel themselves bound to vote for it. I cannot vote for her in this bill, because, if the amendment were adopted, you would drive a large number of Senators to vote against it. It is for these reasons I would very much have preferred it, if it would have suited the Senator, to have had this proposition withdrawn.

Mr. Seward—I regret very much that the Senator from New Jersey has been embarrassed by this proposition. He sees that I have not the power now to withdraw it, however much I might desire to do so. At the same time, I do not find that difficulty in the case which seems to lie in the Senator's way. He says he must examine the Constitution for himself, and not delegate it to the President of the United States. I have referred nothing to the President of the United States, but to ascertain as a historical fact whether the Constitution has been ratified by the people of New Mexico, in a Convention held on a certain day for that purpose. The Constitution will then come up for our adoption. I stated in the outset that it was not myself who was responsible for the premature presentation of the proposition—that this bill, if it passes, is a bill which is to shut the doors against New Mexico when she shall come with her Constitution here in her hands, and with her delegates here, to maintain and support her rights. She is turned adrift without making her appearance, and therefore it is that I am prepared, for one, upon the information I have, to go for her admission in order to secure her her rights. Other Senators may act as they in their discretion may think right and proper. They will have their own reasons, I have no doubt, to justify themselves and their constituents in regard to the vote they shall give.

Mr. Hale—I concur with the honorable Senator from New Jersey in what he has said in regard to the amendment of the Senator from New York, as a reason for not voting for it. I cannot vote for the proposition for another reason, which he has not adverted to; and that is, because those of us who have contended against the piling of incongruous measures in one bill should preserve our consistency, if it is worth preserving, (I do not myself consider it of any very great value,) and go against increasing the load; for if California's back was bent by what was already piled upon it, this certainly would not lighten the burden. For that reason I would have preferred that this proposition should have been presented in a different shape.

But there was one remark of the Senator from Maryland that I wish to advert to. I do not know that I understand the precise offence which the Senator from New York has committed, for which the honorable Senator from Maryland has suggested his expulsion. If it be the announcement that there was a higher law than the Constitution, and which we are bound to obey at all times and at all hazards, I myself ought to be expelled, because I believe it. I thought when the Senate went into the choice of a chaplain to perform the ceremony of offering prayer and supplication, that we did recognize that there was a higher power over us, and I have not heard of late years that it was a crime to recognize a power higher than human power.

Mr. Pratt (in his seat)—No one denies that.

Mr. Hale—I do remember, recorded in ancient and sacred history, an occasion somewhat analogous to this. It is recorded that on a certain occasion the princes and governors and mighty men of the realm got together, and suggested to the king of Babylon to publish a decree that whoever should put up any prayer or petition to any other than the king, for the space of three days, (it was limited to three days only, let it be remembered,) should be cast into a den of lions; and I have not heard that that decree was enforced but three days. The operation was such that it never was renewed in the kingdom of Babylon; and I have never heard of any country, civilized or savage, where it has been a crime to acknowledge, as individuals or as members of an organized Government, that there is a Power higher than your Constitution—that there is a King of Kings, and a Lord of Lords, before whose face the stubborn pride of the Republic must bend the knee.

Mr. Foote—Mr. President, will the Senator allow me to ask him——

Mr. Hale—I will get through in a moment.

Mr. Foote—Now, sir, a very great question——

Mr. Hale—I wish this thing to be put distinctly before us. I wish we might, as individuals, understand whether it is necessary to a seat on this floor for us to put the provisions of our Constitution above the behests of the King of Kings. What an idle mockery it is to stand up and reverently kiss the Holy Book, and call upon Him to help us to maintain its precepts, when in our hearts we maintain that our Constitution is above even His supreme authority! Sir, if this is crime, I am criminal. If the Senate is to be expurgated of everybody who believes that sentiment, let the work commence and let it commence now. Let the preamble show the offense of which they are guilty: that is, that they believed, high and exalted as the sentiments they entertain of the wisdom and power of the Constitution which our fathers formed—that they irreverently believed that there was a Power higher even than that power to which republicans as well as kings must bow in submission. If it be a crime, sir, I plead guilty to it. I will not put the Senator from Maryland nor anybody else to the trouble of proving it. I admit it; I believe it. Sir, I believe that you have no right even to bring the supremacy of your Republic into conflict with the commands of the Most High. I believe that sentiment in its broadest sense, and I have heretofore supposed that in the action of our Government and the sentiment of our Government, we had not yet, in the plenitude of our power, in the unbridled state of our pride, come to that pitch of presumption that it was to be considered an offence against the Constitution to bow reverently to the power of the Most High.

Mr. Pratt—It is a very easy matter, sir, when an argument based upon one state of facts is made, to answer it by making an argument upon another state of facts which was never dreamed of by the party who made the argument in the first case. Does the Senator from New Hampshire say in his place that he understood me to say I did not believe in a supreme power—that I objected to the Senator from New York for looking to a supreme power as a higher law than any human law? Did the Senator so understand me? He knows he did not; and yet he has got up here, in the manner in which he usually argues, using a set of phrases which, however well they may suit certain occasions, and however they may exhibit the talents of the author of them, will not apply to every occasion, and have not just so much application to one state of facts as another. He assumes the facts to suit the phrases, and not his speech to suit the facts.

Now, sir, I never said; and I am sure there is not a Senator who hears me who does not believe that I have a higher respect for that Supreme Power, whose name is so frequently desecrated here than the Senator from New Hampshire.

Mr. Hale—Order!

[The Reporter feels called upon to state that he understood the Senator to say "whose name is so frequently desecrated by the Senator from New Hampshire," and so he took down the words the instant they were uttered; but, upon further reflection, considering the sentence would have been incomplete by inserting the preposition "by," and that by the Senator's letting his voice fall after the word "New Hampshire" he intended to finish the sentence, he Reporter is forced to the conclusion that his ear was mistaken.]

The President—The Senator must not make any reflection.

Mr. Pratt—I have not made any.

Mr. Hale—I call the Senator to order.

Mr. Pratt—I have yet to learn that telling the truth is out of order.

The President—The Senator will take his seat until the question of order is stated by the Senator from New Hampshire.

Mr. Hale—I understood the gentleman to say that I frequently desecrated the name of the Most High.

Mr. Foote, (in his seat,)—He did not say so.

The President—The Senator from New-Hampshire will reduce the words to writing.

Mr. Hale having reduced the words to writing, passed them to the Chair.

The President—The words, as written down by the Senator from New-Hampshire, are, that "the name of the Most High is frequently desecrated by that Senator."

Mr. Hale—I have not had time to put down the connection in which they occurred, but that is a part of the language I understood him to utter.

Mr. Pratt—I said "so frequently desecrated in the Senate."

Mr. Chase—May I be allowed to suggest that the words heard by the Senator from New-Hampshire were so frequently desecrated here?"

The President—The Chair will make its decision, and then it will be in order for gentlemen to appeal from it if they choose. The words set down by the Senator from New-Hampshire, applying a remark of this character to an individual Senator, would certainly be out of order; but the Chair did not so understand the Senator from Maryland, or he would have felt it his duty to call him to order, as the Chair rarely shrinks from what he believes to be a discharge of his duty.

Mr. Hale—I hope it will be understood by the Senate that the words I have taken down were not intentionally misunderstood. I put them down as they struck my ear and the ears of several gentlemen in my vicinity.

Mr. Pratt, (resuming.)—Now, Mr. President, the higher law of which I spoke was not the Divine law to which the Senator refers; and before they can apply that Divine law so as to suffer the Senator with whom this dispute originated to be exempted from the position in which he is placed, his advocates here must assume this; that the Constitution of the United States is violative of that law—that here is the Constitution of the United States, which violates the law of the Supreme Being, and that therefore a person may swear to support that, although he does violate it with the mental reservation that he is to support it so far as he does not violate it. Now, the whole result of the position in which the advocates of the Senator over the way place themselves is the one which I have stated. I conceive that his position is not altered for the better from that which is taken by his advocates. Now, if the Senator from New Hampshire entertains and avows the opinions as he now expresses them, and as expressed by the Senator who sits behind him, (Mr. Seward,) then if I make a motion to expel the Senator from New York, I shall include him in the motion, and move to expel him also with the utmost pleasure in the world? [Laughter.]

Now, sir, are we here acting fairly together as equals? I look at the Constitution of the country. I see nothing in it violative of any law which I am pledged to obey in preference to it. Senators say that the portion of the Constitution of the United States which protects the master in the property of his Slaves is violative of the supreme law, and that the supreme law being higher than the Constitution, they are bound to obey it. Now I say that the honorable Senator who entertains that opinion has not properly qualified himself to be a member of this body, and should not be permitted to remain here.

Mr. Hale—I ask the Senator from Maryland when he ever heard me say so?

Mr. Pratt—Say what?

Mr. Hale—That I held that part of the Constitution which recognizes the holding of Slaves as contrary to the Divine law, and did not feel bound to support it.

Mr. Pratt—I never heard the Senator from New Hampshire say so. But this brings me back to the remark with which I commenced—that the Senator argued that that was the higher law of which he spoke. He argued against me, and wanted to hold my course up to rebuke, because I stated an opinion which he denies and says he never entertained. I stated that he so understood me, and he knew he so understood me; and yet he seemed desirous of making a remark by which it might go out to the world and break the effect of the remarks I made, leaving the impression that I had a want of respect to the Supreme Being, as if I were some sacrilegious person who had no respect for that Supreme Being for whom he professes to entertain so profound a respect.

I will not detain the Senate longer upon this subject. I started with the proposition that there is contained in the speeches of the honorable Senator from New York, as he spoke—and I believe as they have been written out and since printed—this proposition: that there is a law higher than the Constitution of the United States; and although he has sworn to support that Constitution, yet that it violates this higher law, and he is not bound to stand by it all. Now, the Senator from Connecticut, in his exposition of what the Senator from New York meant, said that it was a higher law in harmony with the Constitution. Why, we all believe in that law. We all believe—I do most sincerely and humbly—in the truth of that position, as promulgated upon earth from Heaven. Now, the Senator says that he understood the Senator from New York so to confine his remarks as to make that application of it to that higher law which is consistent with the Constitution. The Senator from New York never said that—never meant that. He said it overrode the Constitution, and he would stand by that in preference to it. We all acknowledge that law consistent with the Constitution, the supreme law, the Supreme Being which is higher than the Constitution, and, being consistent with it imposes an additional obligation to support it. It is only, therefore, when the Supreme Law is annulling the Constitution that the whole remark of the honorable Senator can have any sense in it.

Mr. Baldwin—Mr. President, I rise simply to put myself right in regard to the answer which I gave to the general inquiry of the Senator from Maryland as to what the Senator from New York was understood to say in regard to that higher law of which he spoke. I said, in reply to the inquiry of the Senator from Maryland, that I understood the Senator from New-York, when he spoke of that higher law, to say that it was in harmony with the Constitution. I noticed a smile of incredulity upon the face of the Senator from Maryland when I made that reply, and I was desirous, therefore, of procuring the speech of the Senator from New-York in order that I might refresh my own memory.—I have it in my hand and will read from it. The Senator from New-York says, in speaking of the public domain:

But there is yet another aspect in which this principle must be examined. It regards the domain only as a possession, to be enjoyed as common or by partition [illegible] It is that, indeed, that the national domain is ours. It is true that it was acquired by the valor and with the wealth of the whole Nation—But we hold, nevertheless, no arbitrary power over it. We hold no arbitrary authority over anything, whether acquired lawfully or seized by usurpation.

The Constitution regulates our stewardship; the Constitution devotes the domain to union, to justice, to defence, to welfare, and to liberty.

But there is a higher law than the Constitution, which regulates our authority over the domain, and devotes it to the same noble purposes. The territory is a part, no inconsiderable part, of the common heritage of mankind, bestowed upon them by the Creator of the Universe. We are his stewards, and must so discharge our trust as to secure, in the highest attainable degree, their happiness.

That is the part of the speech to which I referred, and which I believe, according to my general recollection of it, is published substantially, if not literally, as it was spoken. But, sir, I rose not merely for the purpose of making this explanation, but to state, on the amendment proposed by the senator from New-York, that I shall be obliged to record my vote against it. And I wish to state to the Senate that I shall vote, not because under the circumstances in which New-Mexico is now placed. I should vote against her admission, if she came here with a constitution demanding admission into the Union, in fulfillment of the stipulation of the treaty by which she was acquired; for in that case. I should feel bound, under the circumstances now existing, to record my vote in her favor. But for reasons which have been stated by my friend from New-Jersey and my friend from New Hampshire, I feel myself constrained to vote against this amendment of the present amendment of the Senator from Maine.

Mr. Davis, of Mississippi, moved an adjournment, which motion was rejected—yeas 23, nays 29—as follows.

Yeas—Messrs, Baldwin, Barnwell, Benton, Butler, Chase, Clarke, Davis of Mass, Davis of Miss, Dayton, Dodge of Wis, Greene, Hale, Hamlin, Hunter, Mason, Miller, Morton, Seward, Smith, Soule, Turney, Upham, and Yulee—23.

Nays—Messrs, Atchison, Badger, Berrien, Bradbury, Bright, Cass, Clay, Cooper, Dawson, Dickinson, Dodge of Iowa, Douglass, Downs, Foote, Jones, King, Mangum, Pratt, Rusk, Sebastian, Shields, Spruance, Sturgeon, Underwood, Wales, Walker and Whitcomb - 27.

Mr. Chase—Before the question is taken on this amendment of the Senator from New York. I wish to say a word or two. The first is in regard to the general appeal made by the Senator from Maryland. In reference to that I have to say that I never understood the honorable Senator from New York as stating the proposition attributed to him by the Senator from Maryland. But I think that matter is sufficiently disposed of by the quotation from the speech given by the Senator from Connecticut. Of course I have no idea of concurring in the measure which the Senator from Maryland has intimated a purpose of bringing before the Senate. I would rather express a wish that instead of general denunciation, and instead of an occasional threat of expelling some Senator they would put that purpose in a definite form, and have the action of the Senate upon it. I have nothing further to say upon that point.

Mr. Foote—Will the honorable Senator give way for a moment?

Mr. Chase—No, sir, I cannot.

Mr. Foote—I wished only to gratify your wish.

Mr. Chase—I expressed no wish that the thing should be done. But I think it would be a great deal better, instead of announcing purposes, to do deeds. Now, in regard to the amendment proposed by the Senator from New York, all I have to say is, that when the Constitution of New Mexico is before this body, and the boundaries in the Constitution are found to be such as are proper and legitimate, I am ready to vote for the admission of New Mexico with these bonndaries. If the boundaries are not found to be such as she is legitimately entitled to, then I am ready to vote for her admission with a reduction of her boundaries. But, to explain my position upon that point, I ask leave to read to the Senate a resolution adopted by the Democracy of Ohio, assembled in Convention on the 4th of July last. I do not refer to that party known as the "Free Democracy," who hold opinions on the subject of Slavery not altogether in accordance with those now entertained by the old Democratic party. I refer to that body of the Democracy that supported the honorable Senator from Michigan at the last presidential election, and not to the portion that supported Mr. Van Buren. Well, sir, that Democracy held a Convention on the last 4th of July, and this was the resolution that was unanimously adopted. I quote the resolution as published in the *Ohio Statesman*, the organ of the Ohio Democracy:

Resolved, That we hail with high satisfaction the action of the people of California and New Mexico in the formation of governments for themselves; and we insist on their admission into the Union, with the constitutions they have adopted without delay.

In accordance with the spirit of that resolution, which has the approbation of my judgment, I am prepared to act. But upon this present amendment I am not inclined to vote.

Mr. Foote—I simply rise to make an explanation. I have no unkind feelings with regard to the honorable Senator from Ohio, or anybody in this body. But I meant to be understood—and would have said so distinctly, if the honorable Senator from Ohio had given way—that if any member of this body will avow the odious, abhorrent and unprincipled sentiment which I am about to state, I will move his expulsion instantly. That sentiment is this—that in taking his seat upon this floor he felt there was any law higher or lower than he would be

the very marrow of our bones, and we even roll it like a sweet morsel under our tongues. A new mess of it was cooked up, beside which Olla Podrida, Salmagundi and Pot Pourri looked simple and savory. But General Taylor turned up his nose at it, and gave evident expression of his disgust at the filthy concoction; and all interested in its success, from the *chef de cuisine* to the meanest scullion, trembled and hated him. We think he had not learned his trade of President well, and that he did not properly understand his duties as a Slaveholder; but we cannot but, so far, respect the rough simplicity of his natural tastes. But his demise has not, thus far, been blessed as our Divine, and his numerous parish far and wide, had hoped.

Still, it is too soon to sing pæans, as after victory It will be a strange anomaly, indeed, in the history of our country if it be not yet snatched away from us. Let us remember the rejection of Texas, and how soon afterwards she was smuggled into the family when we thought the door was fairly shut and bolted in her face. It will not do to undervalue the sagacity and the political tact of the slaveholders. They have been brought up to the trade of governing us, and they are too completely masters of the craft to abandon a favorite job because the first experiment has failed They will succeed yet in all the material parts of their design, if they are not very different men from their former selves and their fathers' before them. They will probably get all they want before Congress adjourns; but, certainly, as soon as it comes together again, they have only to go home and trick out the hobgoblin of Disunion again, and they will have all the merchants and manufacturers on their knees, bawling that they will be good, if that grisly spectre, made up of a hollow pumpkin, with a farthing candle inside, can but be removed out of their sight. They have not yet had enough of Southern domination. They yet long for a still lengthening line of Slaveholding Presidents. They are not yet satisfied with the interference of their natural enemies with what they esteem their own interests. The gentlemen who thought it "too late" to oppose the final Annexation of Texas, that such opposition "might be attended with bad results," are not satisfied with the upsetting of their beloved Tariff by the votes of the two Texan Senators (O, rare political Justice!), but are for strengthening Mr. Webster's hands to create more Slave votes for their further subjugation!

We do not think, therefore, that the substance of the Compromise—to wit, the granting to Slavery all the new territory which can be convenient for her purposes, and the payment of a round sum to Texas for relinquishing her title to what never belonged to her, and for which she could have no use—is, by any means, to be despaired of. It will come in due time, yet; probably, in a short time. That the South will forego the necessary amount of bullying, or that the North will fall to succumb, is not to be thought of. We shall see very pretty backing and filling yet. But while we are awaiting this spectacle, it cannot be denied that the state of things at Washington is of a highly gratifying and encouraging nature. The Abolitionists have done, Mr. Clay and Mr. Webster being witnesses, what no other body of men have ever been able to do since there was a Congress. They have made it a valuable and useful body! They have turned that logocracy into a Grand National Anti-Slavery Debating Society. For the Slaveholders know, and tell us, that to defend Slavery is an Anti-Slavery work. Silence and Darkness are the only elements fit to support its like. Light and Speech are the most powerful exorcisms that can be brought to bear against it. For the first time since Congress was, its members have earned their *per diem*. No sensible person grudges them their daily allowance, or would were it twice as much. The Abolitionists have beaten their "rub-a-dub," as Mr. Webster calls it, to some purpose. They have played the Devil's *tattoo* for Mr. Clay, and the Rogue's March which has drummed Mr. Webster out of the Legislative Camp. Lord Chesterfield said of Pulteney that "he sunk into insignificance and a Peerage;" so, thanks to the Abolitionists, Mr. Webster has sneaked from the Senate Chamber to the Department of State.

The Abolitionists have sometimes been accused of bonsting themselves unduly, and magnifying their office beyond measure. But these charges can hardly again be urged against them. Mr. Webster and Mr. Clay, to say nothing of the "*Patricii minorum gentium*," have set that matter forever at rest, and put it beyond the possibility of a peradventure. It is the Abolitionists, and they only, that have created the prejudices at the North, from which all the mischief springs. It is their incessant agitation that has stirred up the ill will which looks at the relation of master and slave from the stand-point of the slave. This is all true, and very creditable to the observation and the candor of those most honorable gentleman. But there is a curious appendix to this information, less creditable to their sagacity; and that is, that they profess to believe that the passage of the Compromise Bill would quiet these perturbed spirits, and restore the good old days of pro-slavery tranquility that reigned twenty years ago! Mr. Clay really seems to think that the deglutition of his panacea of the many simples would work a miraculous cure in the body politic, and restore it, if not to health, to that blessed ignorance in which it formerly rejoiced that anything ailed it. He refers to the calm which followed the Missouri Compromise, and anticipates a renewal of those halcyon days. But he forgets that the very element of which he and his compeer complains did not exist then, and does exist now. An organized Movement, resting on the absolute, radical and incurable wickedness of Slavery, appealing to the religious and humane elements of human nature, has made all the difference in the permanence and growing intensity of the Anti-Slavery Agitation. Mr. Clay and Mr. Webster may be sure this will not be put out by filling its odorous lamp with the very oil that feeds its light. The proposition is so absurd, that it hardly seems serious. It would seem to smack of senility were not their speeches so full of strong hard-headed wickedness. Were it Agitation only that we cared for, we should regret the rejection of the Compromise. But we do not wish evil to be done that good may come of it. And, be it as it may, we can assure those afflicted patriots that they may as well curse God and die at once, if they expect to see the beatific day when there shall be no more Anti-Slavery Agitation in the land. There must be no more Slavery, first.

E. Q.

MOB IN COLUMBUS, OHIO.

We copy from the last No. of the *North Star* an account of a recent disgraceful and atrocious mob at a meeting held by Frederick Douglass, in Columbus, Ohio. It is written, as will be observed, by Mr. Douglass himself. The very presence of this man, the most distinguished of his color in the country, and especially distinguished for his great power as an orator, seems to be an indignity not to be borne by our democratic sovereigns; it is a reproach to a slaveholding people which makes them cry out in their madness:

I have just escaped the fury of an atrocious mob, in Columbus, the Capital of the great State of Ohio. A week ago, I accepted an invitation of several colored friends in this city to visit them on my return from Cincinnati, where I had just held a successful series of meetings.

I arrived in Columbus, from Cincinnati, on Friday, July 12th. In consequence of indisposition, I was unable to speak until Monday afternoon and evening. My friends had secured, without difficulty, the use of the Senate Chamber of the State House for the meeting; and, judging from this indication of liberal feeling, I had little apprehension that I should be subjected to the violence of an incensed and murderous mob. But appearances are sometimes deceptive. They were so in this instance; for a larger or a more spiteful and malign specimen of mobocracy than that on Monday night, in the famous metropolis of Ohio, I have not lately encountered. A week before I came to Columbus, a patriotic citizen (whose name will perhaps hereafter appear) was heard to declare his intention to get up a mob, if it cost him all he was worth in the world, and ten years in the State prison besides; and the result shows that he has not proved false to his diabolical vow. As these mobs are striking indications of the public mind, and serve very well to illustrate the nature of American freedom and civilization, I deem it proper to put them on record, even at the expense of variety.

My first meeting, as I have already remarked, was held in the Senate Chamber, on Monday afternoon. It was attended by a large concourse of persons, and all appeared to listen to my speech with a lively interest, although I spoke strongly—as I feel strongly—IN REPROBATION OF THE AMERICAN CONSTITUTION AND UNION. Strong, however, as were the expressions used by me, they were too true to answer the purpose of getting up a mob; and the parties desirous to get up one had therefore first to get up a *lie*, and tell it extensively, before they could rouse the citizens to violate the laws and disgrace the city. The LIE was not a fat *one*, but a very poor ONE—almost too contemptible and absurd to repeat; yet, considering that it produced the desired effect, I suppose I ought to chronicle it for the benefit of posterity. Here it is, then, just in the shape it went round the city, into groggeries, and law offices, and other haunts of slumbering patriotism—"That *d——d nigger Douglass has denounced the framers of the Constitution as cowards*"!! Of course I did no such thing. But the people believed I did say so, and they attached so much importance to what they believed me guilty of saying, that they thought it necessary to come to the rescue. To prove that their fathers were not cowards, they proved themselves ruffians.

The evening meeting, like the one in the afternoon, was very well attended. The lower part of the house was crowded to overflowing. The great body of the audience was composed of the most intelligent and humane people of the metropolis. On entering, I felt impressed by the imposing presence. But I soon discovered that a number of the "baser sort"—the "servile mob"—had taken possession of the gallery of the Senate Chamber, and were quite prepared to defend the *honor, dignity and patriotism* of their forefathers, by every species of *disorder* and *indecency* which their inhuman depravity could suggest. I was accompanied to the platform by Rev. Mr. Monroe. At my suggestion, he made a few remarks. During his address, the clamor, hissing, stamping, and vulgar exclamations, were almost incessant. It was with great difficulty that he was heard by those nearest to the platform. In the thickest of the noise and uproar, a gentleman of fine, commanding appearance, rose in a distant part of the hall, and asked to be heard. It was Auditor Wood. Quiet was restored, and he addressed the mob in an eloquent and manly strain for about ten minutes—remonstrating against their illegal, criminal, and disgraceful behavior, and entreating them to desist from their mobocratic conduct, and to allow the meeting to proceed in order. This was all of no effect They came for a different purpose—to mob Frederick Douglass; and that purpose must be executed at all hazards.

Finding that the disturbers continued the uproar, and seemed resolved to persevere in their unlawful course, Mr. Wood and another gentleman (whose name I do not remember) went into the gallery with a view to ascertain who the persons were who could thus audaciously trample upon the rights of their fellow citizens. Their appearance in the gallery, armed only with lighted candles, caused the *patriotic* cowards to disperse, and to leave the orderly portion of the assemblage in possession of the hall.

The relief, however, was only temporary. The mob soon surrounded the building outside, reinforced by greater numbers, and evidently urged on by increased malice, they rent the air with hideous yells. This was followed by an alarm of fire. Bells were rung, engines dashed through the streets, and all was noise and confusion without It is due to the assembly within to say, that they kept remarkably quiet during this uproar. Their good sense and presence of mind in this matter, entitle them to much praise. We continued the meeting until half past ten o'clock. There remained at the door about five hundred persons. These composed the mob. They were waiting for me to come out. Fortunately, I reached the door in a crowd, by which I was for a time concealed from the incensed multitude. As soon, however, as I was discovered in the crowd, stones and other missiles began to fly about my head—one only of which struck me, and that did but little injury. Just at this point of the fray, we arrived at the corner of a street, which offered me the opportunity to escape. At that moment, a white friend of mine (who was in the crowd,) blest with a vigorous arm and a Stentorian voice, rushed through the cowardly mob, in an opposite direction to me, exclaiming, "Here he goes! *Give it to him! give it to him!*" &c., until he changed the direction of the whole mob, thus leaving me full chance to escape. To this stratagem I am probably indebted for life and limb at this moment. The mob, losing sight of its prey, perambulated through those parts of the city where the colored inhabitants mostly reside, in pursuit, but to no purpose. I was secreted in a house where I could see their movements and hear their fiendish curses. After indulging in the latter pretty freely, they gradually dispersed, and went to their homes. Upon this brutal treatment, I leave others to comment; I merely give the facts.—F. D.

The Southern Scheme of Disunion.

A Washington correspondent of the (Philadelphia) *North American* makes some disclosures in relation to the Southern Disunion plot, which are more minute than anything that has hitherto transpired. That such a plot exists, or has existed, is very probable, but it must remain a secret one to be at all, for it can no sooner be disclosed than exploded. The South will not dissolve the Union, though some few rabid Pro-Slavery politicians may think they can arouse her to that point. Nobody else believes that the Union wil be dissolved to save Slavery; and the *Journal of Commerce*, the *New York Herald*, and other papers of that character who are endeavoring to create a panic to that effect, are moved thereto not by any fears they entertain, but by their real attachment to the system of Slavery, and the hope that they may induce the North to concede everything for the Union's sake to the slaveholder's demand for the extension of Slavery. The editor of the *Journal* could not labor more devotedly in favor of admitting Slavery into the Territories if he had been born and bred a "nigger-driver." But the following is the statement of the correspondent of the *North American*:

When it was suggested here, last Winter, that certain politicians of the South had deliberately planned the organization of a Southern Confederacy, it was hooted at as a slander too vile to be countenanced, or an invention too weak to impose on public credulity. It was my conviction then that this imputation was conceived and spread abroad to excite prejudice against the South, or to promote that system of angry contention which demagogues have employed for personal advantage. I regret to say that these opinions have been entirely changed, and by evidence of the most complete and astounding character. What I am about to relate is capable of official verification, if the proper means are taken. I learn, upon the most direct and undoubted authority, that a gentleman, represented to occupy a position of high influence and character in the South, visited Mexico in April last, *incognito*, and submitted a complete plan for the organization of a Southern Confederacy, of which that city was proposed as the capital, as a means of inducing the co-operation of Mexico.

The project was submitted to the Mexican Cabinet by Mr. Lacunza, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and was urged by him at a meeting which immediately followed when a discussion of great interest and excitement occurred. The proposition was declined, and the emissary started for California. Mr. Doyle, the British Minister, was cognizant of all the proceedings, and was consulted throughout. I am restrained, by proper and prudential considerations affecting others, from exposing the manner and influences by which the scheme was rejected in the Mexican Cabinet; but if brought to light they would reflect the highest honor on the parties concerned. The day may come when a full publication may be attended with less danger. I have felt it due to the country that that infamous purpose should be understood, in order that the designs of reckless demagogues, who are now preaching disunion, should be properly appreciated, and visited with that storm of execration which such treason demands.

I have some reason to believe that the late President of the United States was apprised of this movement, and had exercised his usual sagacity in counteracting any unfortunate consequences. The reflections which such a disclosure must naturally excite are too gloomy and saddening to be treated with any other than the most serious consideration. They are not so much calculated to inspire alarm at any threatened danger as to induce a painful contemplation of our future destiny as a nation, when treason thus stalks abroad in a season of profound peace and prosperity, and when the eyes of the civilized world are turned toward us, with mingled emotions of envy and admiration. I leave the subject to be treated by the public press according to its merits.

—How many, however, really are in earnest in seeking Disunion we get a notion of by the Southern Caucus of Southern Representatives held in Washington on Saturday night last. The following Resolutions were adopted by about forty persons, many others looking on as spectators:

Resolved, That no citizen shall be deprived of his life, liberty, or property, except by the judgment of his peers and the laws of the land, and that the Common Law, as it existed in the American Colonies on the 4th of July, 1776, and the Constitution, Laws of the United States applicable to our Territories, shall be the fundamental law of the said territory.

Resolved, That in the event that non-slaveholding States object thus to put the life, liberty and property of American citizens under American laws, we will insist upon a division of the Country on the line of 36 deg. 30 min with a distinct recognition and protection of property in Slaves.

Resolved, That we will not vote for the admission of California, unless the Southern Boundary be restricted to the parallel of 36 30 North latitude.

Resolved, That we will not agree to any Boundary between Texas and New-Mexico which proposes to cede to New Mexico any portion of Territory south of the parallel of 36 30 North latitude and west of the Rio Grande prior to the adjustment of the Territorial questions.

Resolved, That the Representatives of the non-slaveholding States will resist by all usual legislative and constitutional means the admission of the State of California and the adjustment of the Texas boundary until a settlement of the Territorial question is made.

Be it further Resolved, That the powers and duties of the Committee of fifteen be continued until the further action of the meeting, and that the Chairman of that Committee by the concurrence of any three members thereof may at any time call a meeting of the Representatives of the slaveholding States.

A "WOOL LEAGUE."—We find in *The* (London) *Inquirer* a reference to a new association under the name and title of "Wool League." Its object is not stated, but we take it to be a combination of the Landed against the Manufacturing interest, and its advocates, if we may judge from some extracts of their speeches, made by *The Inquirer*, are determined to make the most of the arguments of the friends of Free Labor in the attempt to substitute wool for cotton. A Mr. Ferrand, at a meeting at Reading, said—

Here in the presence of God, I declare that there is no man who wears a cotton shirt woven out of slave-grown cotton who does not wear one that is steeped in the tears and dyed in the blood of his fellow-creatures. A few years ago all England united to put down Slavery in the West Indies; and at what cost it was done we all well know. And now I call for a similar demonstration to oppose the system of Slavery in America. But where are those canting, whining hypocrites the Quakers—[cheers and laughter]—they who branded the West India slaveowners with being monsters in human shape for keeping their fellow-men in bondage—[cheers]? 'Am I not a man and a brother?' exclaimed the blackened men that they sent through the country, with chains upon their wrists, to appear upon the hustings whilst they advocated Freedom in the West Indies. Where are the canting, whining hypocrites, I say? Why, in Lancashire, spinning blood-tained cotton, and coining gold out of the blood of the slaves—[great cheering.]

The Marquis of Downshire, says *The Inquirer*, who spoke at the same meeting, was even plainer in his illustration of the motives which actuate the wool leaguers:

I did not come here this day to do things by halves; no, I came here to speak out, and to call things by their proper names—[loud cheers]. And I now declare that I wish this agitation to be considered a war *à outrance* on the part of the farmers against the Manchester cotton manufacturers—[vociferous cheering]. Now, mark my words—I will stand by them—and if there be a penalty attached to them, on my head let it fall. I recommend you and all Englishmen to abstain from dealing in a single ounce of their blood-stained cotton goods—[loud cheers].

SLAVE CASE AT WASHINGTON.—A correspondent of the *Express* makes the following statement of a slave-case at Washington. We are glad to be able to record a fact so much to the credit of some of the persons who are assisting this poor man in the purchase of his family, and wish that they might find in this one case of oppression which so moves their sympathies a suggestive thought as to the thousands of similar cases which by their political course they are making, not possible merely, but absolutely certain:

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Aug. 7.

The runaway slaves have been so numerous of late, in these parts, under the instigations of the Abolitionists here and elsewhere, that the owners of this species of property have become very much alarmed, and hence are disposed to remove them to safer parts of the United States, or to sell them to slave traders. A cruel incident of this kind, is exciting great sympathy here at present. The family of William Williams, the coachman of Presidents Polk, Taylor and Fillmore, were suddenly, on Friday morning, seized by a slave-trader, and taken from their homes, in this city, off to Baltimore, to be sent to New-Orleans. His wife, over fifty years of age, three daughters, and three grand-children, were thus snatched from him in an hour to a fate worse to him than death; to be sold South to the highest bidder, and separated from him and each other. The poor man wrung his hands, rolled on the ground, was nearly crazed in fact, by the dreadful parting. After many years toil, he very recently purchased his own freedom, but his family were owned by some one in New Orleans.

The President feeling deeply for his distress, gave him money and let him go to Baltimore, to see them again. Williams found the trader would take the sum of $3,200 for them, and returned with the hope of raising that amount here to redeem them. A petition was drawn up, and to-day circulated about the City and House of Representatives, setting forth the fact, and asking for assistance, which was so promptly rendered that the prospect is, in the language of Williams himself, "very fair."

The President, Mr. Webster, Gen. Scott, and a number of Senators, Members and citizens have contributed sums from $5 to $50 Mr. Corcoran gave $200, which was the price asked for the aged wife, and he made her "free" at once. Beside doing this Mr. Corcoran has purchased one of the women, who has lived in his family for some years, Mrs. Com. Patterson, another, and Mrs. Gen. Towson, a third, who lived with her some years past. So the children, for whom $1,500 were asked, only remain to be purchased by their grandfather, and he is in a fair way of raising this money.

A BALTIMORE CORRESPONDENT of the *Tribune*, gives some statistics of the instability of slave-property on the border, which would go far, we should think, to induce the slaveholders in that region to take better care of themselves at any rate, let what will become of the slaves. Property which must either be lost altogether, or subject to a tax of 24 per cent. if retained, it would be considered little short of ruin here to hold. The slaveholders certainly could not be much worse off for Emancipation. The writer referred to says:

"The papers from Western Virginia and Western Maryland, and the eastern shore counties, teem with advertisements of rewards for runaway slaves. The difficulty of re-capturing runaways has increased the amount generally offered very much, $300 and $350 each being very common. I am informed by a slave catcher and dealer that the loss of slave property this spring and summer, from Maryland and Virginia, is larger than at any former period. He showed me a list of advertisements he had arranged in his note-book, for references, offering rewards for eighty-one, amounting to about $12,000. The total value of this number would be fully $50,000. A snug item for slaveowners to post to 'profit and loss account'—a great majority of them never being recovered."

NEW MEXICO AND TEXAS.—Since the overthrow of the Omnibus the boundary of New Mexico has been the absorbing question in Congress. A message on this subject has been sent to the Senate and House by the President, and a letter of Mr. Secretary Webster to Gov. Bell, of Texas, has also been published, both of which are too long for the crowded columns of the *Standard* this week. Together they make a complete history of the whole subject, and for that reason we shall publish them next week.

A Bill for the adjustment of the Texan boundary passed the Senate on Friday last, which is as follows:

A bill proposing to the State of Texas the establishment of her northern and western boundaries, the relinquishment by said State of all territory claimed by her exterior to said boundaries, and of all her claim upon the United States.

Be it enacted, &c., That the following propositions shall be, and the same hereby are, offered to the State of Texas, which, when agreed to by the said State in an act passed by the general assembly, shall be binding and obligatory on the United States and upon the said State of Texas: *Provided*, That said agreement by the said general assembly shall be given on or before the 1st December, 1850.

First. The State of Texas will agree that her boundary on the north shall commence at the point at which the meridian of 100 degs. west of Greenwich is intersected by the parallel of 36 deg. and 30 minutes north latitude, and shall run from said point due west to the meridian of 103 degrees west from Greenwich; thence her boundary shall run due south to the 32nd degree of north latitude; thence on the said parallel of 32 degrees of north latitude to the Rio Bravo del Norte; and thence with the channel of said river to the Gulf of Mexico.

Second. The State of Texas cedes to the United States all her territory exterior to her limits and boundaries, which she agrees to establish by the first article of this agreement.

Third. The State of Texas relinquishes all claim upon the United States for liability of the debts of Texas, and for compensation or indemnity for the surrender to the United States of her ships, forts, arsenals, custom-house revenue, arms and munitions of war, and public buildings, with their sites, which became the property of the United States at the time of the annexation.

Fourth. The United States, in consideration of said reduction of boundaries, cession of territory, and relinquishment of claims, will pay to the State of Texas the sum of ten millions of dollars in a stock bearing five per cent. interest, and redeemable at the end of fourteen years, the interest payable half-yearly at the treasury of the United States.

Fifth. Immediately after the President of the United States shall have been furnished with an authentic copy of the act of the general assembly of Texas, accepting these propositions, he shall cause the stock to be issued in favor of the State of Texas, as provided for in the fifth article of this agreement.

Provided, also, That five millions of said stock shall not be issued until the creditors of the said State, holding bonds of Texas, for which duties on imports were specially pledged, shall first file at the treasury of the United States releases of claims against the United States for or on account of said bonds.

The only other business of any moment transacted in the Senate during the week is the order by a vote of 33 to 19 for the engrossment of the Bill for the admission of California with the boundaries as fixed by the Constitution.

FUGITIVE SLAVE CASE AT WASHINGTON.—The Capital has been thrown into commotion during the past week by the attempted escape of several slaves to that degree, it is said, that both North and South in Congress have forgotten, in its discussion, their own debates on another phase of the great question. The escaping parties were slaves to the Hon. Mr. Toombs of Georgia, and Hon. Mr. Stephens of the same State, assisted by Wm. L. Chaplin, once editor of a Liberty party paper in Albany, a distinguished leader of that party when it was one, and well known, probably, to most of our readers by reputation. His attempt to rescue the bondmen was unfortunately not successful. All the facts of the case that have transpired are thus related by a correspondent of the *Tribune*:

WASHINGTON, Friday, Aug. 9.

I sent you by Telegraph this morning, in time for your earliest evening edition, if my dispatch had good luck, the fact that WILLIAM L. CHAPLIN, of your State, had been arrested, and committed to prison here, on the charge of aiding the escape of two slaves of Hon. Mr. Toombs, of Georgia, who started from the residence of their owner some days ago, in company, as it was understood, with one of the slaves of Hon Mr. Stephens, of the same State—which fact I sent to you promptly by Telegraph, though I believe it failed to reach you in advance of other channels; at least, it did not appear in *The Tribune*.

It seems from the statement of this matter, as I have it second-hand, from one of the police officers who assisted in the arrest, that the slaves failed to get away from the city at the time originally appointed, owing to the breaking of a carriage, or death of a horse, or some mishap of that sort. Suspicion having fixed her eye upon Chaplin, his movements were watched and tracked. Last night, about 9 o'clock, a carriage was discovered leaving the suburbs of the city, which was followed by several officers and slave catchers, until it was concluded that their suspicions were well founded, and then one of the party "chocked" with a fence rail the wheels, while another simultaneously caught the horses' heads.

Pistols and Bowie knives now came into requisition, as the perfectly riddled condition of the carriage showed, in which Chaplin and the slaves are alleged to have been found! One of the slaves is said to have been severely wounded, though he has escaped so far. Another was wounded in the back. One of the officers had his arm grazed with a bullet. Chaplin is unhurt. He is described as having fought bravely till the last, it requiring four or five athletic men to subdue and tie him. He rallied the slaves to fight to the death! The officers charge him with having fired the first shot. This statement of course must be taken with the usual allowance.

This affair has created a good deal of excitement.—An attempt is being made, most untruly and meanly, to connect Chaplin's name with the *National Era* office. The purpose of this is palpable! but it will not *take*, I think. Anybody who knows anything about Chaplin's position—who has learned it, as there have been abundant opportunities to do, from his editorials in the late *Albany Patriot*, and in his speeches—are fully aware that he and Dr. BAYLY belong to quite different schools—Chaplin being a Gerrit Smith man, with whom and the editor of the *Era* there is no affinity of opinions whatever.

Mr. Chaplin is in the jail here. One version of the sequel is that he awaits a requisition from the Governor of Maryland; another, that he was taken on this side of the line dividing this district from Maryland, and that therefore he will be tried here. I have had no time to ascertain how this is. It is an important question. If he gets into the hands of the authorities of Maryland he will fare wofully—much worse than here, badly as in either case it will turn out with him when in the hands of Pro-slavery law.

VERITAS.

The same writer says in his letter of Saturday:

WILLIAM L CHAPLIN is still in prison here, and safe from any such personal violence as has too frequently followed men accused of the act for which he has been immured. It is understood that Maryland will take a hand in his management, predicating her claim to jurisdiction upon the circumstance of the assault and battery alleged to have been committed upon Chaplin's pursuers, having been made, in Maryland, on officers of the law." But I think it will turn out that all the *officers* concerned in the expedition belonged to this District, the other individuals employed being professional slave-catchers. The issue under the laws relating to the fugitism of slaves will be tried here, it is understood.

There has been a great deal of excitement about this slave case. Last night groups of idlers were gathered in the vicinity of the publication office of the *National Era* in Seventh-st.; but there were no indications of a malicious intent that I noticed. The trouble may not be over yet—the true danger lying in the slaveholding influence which may be brought to bear from the surrounding country, as in the case of the mob of 1846; but an authorized statement which appeared in the *Republic* this morning will, it is hoped, have the desired pacific effect. I allude to the statement made to the Mayor by CHAPLIN that there was no connection between himself and the Editor of the *Era*—to the contrary, that they did not even agree in their opinions as to theories and measures, which statement was creditable to CHAPLIN. But, then, there is the friendly servile correspondence of "X." of the *Baltimore Sun*, circulating among the more inflammable class of citizens! There is no telling what it may induce at such a critical hour.

A Baltimore correspondent of the *Tribune* says of the same case in a letter of a later date:

The recent abduction of the two slaves belonging to Messrs. Toombs and Stephens, of Georgia, at Washington, and their subsequent re-capture; also the abduction of some eleven from Maryland and their partial capture at Shrewsbury, Pa., has caused the greatest excitement among the slaveholders in this vicinity. The desperate resistance made in the one case, as well as in the other, as detailed in the *Clipper* of this morning, has opened the eyes of owners to the well-organized system which has been adopted, and a determination to succeed in their escape at the cost of life. A meeting has been proposed to be held in Baltimore county with a view to the formation of a detective police to secure runaways—a system now practised to some considerable extent on the Eastern shore counties. These desperate efforts of the slaves will lead to the most vigorous measures, and wo be to any of the Abolitionists caught in the act. Persons living on the borders of Maryland, in Pennsylvania, suspected of harboring or aiding slaves in their flight, dare not now without great personal risk, pass through the counties to Baltimore. Many in fact who transacted all their business in Baltimore, in view of the danger to be apprehended from slaveholders, have quit Baltimore as a market for sales or purchase altogether.

In addition to the above we give the statement of the affair as published in *The* (Washington) *Republic*.

A SERIOUS CASE.—An affair was brought to light in our city yesterday to which much attention was attracted. The principal actor in it is General Chaplin, of New York, a gentleman of fifty or sixty years of age, somewhat widely known as the editor of a paper called *Chaplin's Portfolio*, published at Albany. He has been for some time a resident of this city, acting as correspondent of his own paper, and perhaps doing other writing and attending to other business, as the means of getting along. We understand he is an intelligent, cool, and determined enthusiast, if these terms can be understood as compatible.

On Thursday night it was known by a certain portion of the police that he was about to depart from Washington on that night with some fugitive slaves in a carriage; and the route he was to take was also known. Accordingly, while a good look-out was kept up here in the city, Captain Goddard, with officers Handy, Wollard, Jno. Davis, and Cox, and Messrs. John Cook, Smithey, and Richard Butts, took their position a little beyond the District line, in Maryland, near the place of F. P Blair, Esq., about six miles from the city. Here they quietly awaited until half-past eleven o'clock, when the sound of a heavy carriage was heard, and the voice of the merry driver who sang cheerily as he passed over the road. This was the object of their pursuit; and when it had come quite up to them, (the night being very dark and cloudy,) Captain Goddard dexterously pushed a fence rail between the spokes of the hind wheels, and at the same moment Smithey and Cox seized the bridles of the horses. An exclamation of surprise from the inmates was instantly followed by the discharge of a pistol by the driver, (Chaplin,) which, as is believed, sent a ball through the hat of Mr. Smithey, who held the near horse. General C. plied his whip fiercely, and his fine-spirited horses would have bounded off had the wheels not been "chocked." Officers Davis and Handy now pulled General Chaplin from the driver's seat.

During this operation the inmates of the carriage, two servant-men belonging to the Hon. R. Toombs and the Hon. A. Stephens, of Georgia, respectively, were carrying on a severe battle with the besiegers around them, discharging no less than eleven balls from revolvers of formidable calibre. Nor were the rest of the outsiders idle. The night, as we have remarked, was very dark; the half-captured driver fought to the last, only ceasing when the last limb was pinioned; and the fear of shooting each other rendered the police in a measure powerless. They nevertheless returned shot for shot as long as the firing from within was continued. At one moment Captain Goddard approached the carriage door, and a pistol flashed near enough to his face to scorch his left eyebrow. For this he returned two shots, both of which are believed to have taken effect, though not mortally. One of them lodged in the watch of the fighting negro, who belongs to Mr. Stephens; the other made a flesh wound in the same negro's back.

While this was going on, one of the besieging party stooped to undo the trace chains and detach the horses, and Mr. Toombs' man, having discharged his last shot, leaped from the front of the carriage upon this officer's back, and bounded from their midst, though not without injury, as the blood in his tracks evinced. He has not yet been caught.

The capture was now complete; and upon ascertaining the extent of the damages, all were amazed that so little was done. A flesh wound in the arm of Mr. Butts, a bullet-hole through Mr. Smithey's hat, a singed eyebrow on the part of Captain Goddard, and a scratched face for Mr. Cox, are all the disasters sustained by the captors The captives fared a little worse. General Chaplin had his head bruised, Mr Stephens' man the two wounds already described, and Mr. Toombs' man has not reported himself to the surgeon. The two captives were yesterday committed to prison by Captain Goddard, to await their trials; and it is understood that in the State of Maryland General C., after having atoned to the laws of the District, will be required to answer the charge of a murderous assault. A mulatto man, named Warner Harris, residing in the First Ward, was also committed to prison, as an aider and abettor in this transaction.

The history of this whole affair is rather a long one; but we will try to abridge it.

For several weeks the police had reason to believe that General Wm. L. Chaplin (in connection with certain others) was instrumental in running off the slaves periodically departing from this District. The plan appeared to be, to take two or three at a time in a substantial carryall or carriage, and always to depart at night. They were to be conveyed by the most direct route to Pennsylvania, by the way of Sandy Springs, in Maryland, where, it is said, a day would be passed, and the journey completed on the second night.

A few days ago a two-horse carriage of peculiar construction arrived in this city, and was put up at the stable of Smithey & Sheckles, on D street. Suspicion was immediately excited, and the police officers were constant in watching the carriage and its owner. It was soon ascertained that General Chaplin intended moving from the city on Tuesday night, the 6th inst.; and on that day he paid the bill at the livery stable, and the carriage was driven off by Warner Harris, the free mulatto man above spoken of. Harris moved around the city, stopping at various places, till past 10 o'clock, p. m, when, in the neighborhood of 4 1-2 and C streets, he took in the two negro slaves above named; but, in his eagerness to reach 7th street and start upon the long journey, or perhaps anxious to meet with a chief confederate, he ran against a dray in the rear of Brown's hotel, and instantly killed one of the horses. Here the two fugitive slaves were seen to escape from the carriage. On this night a party of the police were ready for them, as on Thursday night, but on coming home disappointed, they learned the cause of the failure.

On Thursday, a horse of speed and mettle was bought by Gen. C., who paid the stable bill again, and at 10 o'clock in the morning Harris drove off as before, and, taking a circuitous route to his own home, he put the carriage and horses up till evening. Toward night he brought them out, and renewed his circuit, but, the object being well known, the coach was not molested until the fitting time agreed upon by Captain Goddard and his force.

The Mayor of the city yesterday questioned General Chaplin in the presence of Captain Goddard, and we understand that a portion of the information elicited was, that between the *National Era*, of this city, and himself, there was no connection and no sympathy; that he had never approved of the *Era*, and held to nothing in common with it. It was not, as we understood him to imply, ultra enough for him. This has been generally understood; but we quote his declarations here, because assertions to the contrary were yesterday very generally made, and because we believe the truth can injure no one. The evil is grievous enough without the influence of unnecessary crimination and excitement.

Yesterday, the carriage, immortalized by the fray above described, stood at the corner of D and Ninth streets, where it was inspected by thousands of persons. It looked as though it had been used throughout the Mexican campaigns, riddled with pistol balls, and hacked about the door with bowie knives. The effect it seemed to produce was not unlike that described by Mark Anthony, when Cæsar's dead body was beheld by the impulsive populace.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS has addressed the following excellent letter to the (London) *Times*, in return for an editorial article in that paper relative to the brutal attack made by some ruffians, in this city, on Mr. Douglass, in May last:

"Sir—Although I fear it may be an unwarrantable intrusion upon your time and attention on my part, I must yield to the strong desire which moves me to thank you, in the name of justice and humanity, for your timely remarks in the *Times* of June 11th, on the subject of American Slavery, and more especially for your animadversions on the brutal assault made upon me by a mob while I was quietly and inoffensively walking on the Battery at New York.

"The influence exerted upon the more intelligent class of the American people by the judicious expression of British sense of justice and humanity is immense, and, I believe, highly beneficial.

"The outrage committed upon me in New York was the work of low and vicious people. Yet, Sir, you were perfectly right in taking that outrage, and the remarks made upon it by the *Globe*, as a fair illustration of the bitter antipathy which is entertained here, even by the better class of white people, against colored persons. Polished American gentlemen would applaud a deed of ruffianism like the one in question, although they might shrink from the performance of the deed itself. My offence is alleged to be that of walking down Broadway in company of 'two white women.' This, however, is not a fair statement of that offence. My offence was that I walked down Broadway, in company with white persons, on terms of equality. Had I been with those persons simply as a servant, and not as a friend, I should have been regarded with complacency by the refined, and with respect by the vulgar class of white persons who throng that great thoroughfare. The clamor here about human equality is meaningless. We have here an aristocracy of skin, with which, if a man be covered, and can keep out of the State prisons, he possesses the high privilege of insulting a colored man with the most perfect impunity. This class of aristocrats are never more displeased than when they meet with an intelligent colored man. They recognise in him a contradiction to their ungenerous and unsound theories respecting the negro race, and, not being able to reason him down to a level with the brute, they use brute force to knock him down to the desired level. I am, perhaps, tresspassing too long upon your time, and although it may be a small matter to you as to how I may feel with respect to your noble defence of injured and insulted humanity, I could not be satisfied with myself without expressing, in my humble way, my sincerest gratitude for that defence."

DEATH OF YOUNG DILLINGHAM.—The (Salem Ohio) *Bugle* says that Richard H. Dillingham, the young Quaker, from Morrow County, in that State, who was convicted more than a year ago in Tennessee for aiding the escape of slaves, died of cholera, on the 30th of June, in the Penitentiary at Nashville. He was a young man adds the *Bugle*, of excellent character, and his death adds another to the victims of the Slave Power.

HON. C. DURKEE will accept our thanks for a copy of Mr. BENTON's late speech in the Senate on the Texan boundary.

HON. HORACE MANN has published a second edition of his letters on the Extension of Slavery, to which is appended a series of notes called forth by Mr. Webster's Kennebeck letter, wherein "he seems," says Mr. Mann, "to have given himself full license to depart from all the rules of courtesy belonging to a gentleman, and disobey obligations of truth belonging to a man." The notes are as free and truthful, and as severe as from this introductory remark the reader is led to expect they will be. That a second edition of Mr. Mann's letters should be called for is unmistakeable evidence of the popular feeling in Massachusetts in regard to Mr Webster.

PRESIDENT FILLMORE'S INNOCENCE.—The *Lexington* (Ky.) *Observer* settles all doubts that may have been raised by the letter of President Fillmore to an Abolition Committee which we published several weeks since, by the publication of a more recent letter written by him. If any of his friends are still under apprehensions of his guilt in this matter of Abolitionism, they will be entirely relieved by the following:

ALBANY, Nov. 17, 1848.

My Dear Sir—I am pained to hear that Mr. Clay has been quite ill. I hope he is now convalescent, and that life has much of health and happiness in store for him. He is a noble man, and when he falls 'we ne'er shall look upon his like again.' I am told he has said many kind things of me during the canvass, and that he vindicated me from the charge of *abolitionism*, but I have have not seen his letter, still I am none the less grateful for his kindness, and desire to be most cordially remembered to him.

I am truly yours,

MILLARD FILLMORE.

Poetry.

FROM "IN MEMORIAM."
BY ALFRED TENNYSON.

ONE writes that "other friends remain,"
That "Loss is common to the race,"
And common is the common place,
And vacant chaff well meant for grain.

That loss is common would not make
My own less bitter, rather more:
Too common! Never morning wore
To evening but some heart did break.

O father, wheresoe'er thou be,
That pledgest now thy gallant son;
A shot, ere half thy draught be done,
Hath stilled the life that beat from thee.

O mother, praying God will save
Thy sailor—while thy head is bowed,
His heavy-shotted hammock-shroud
Drops in his vast and wandering grave.

Ye know no more than I who wrought
At that last hour to please him well;
Who mused on all I had to tell,
And something written, something thought.

Expecting still his advent home;
And ever met him on his way
With wishes, thinking, here to-day,
Or here to-morrow will he come.

O! somewhere, meek, unconscious dove,
That sittest ranging golden hair;
And glad to find thyself so fair,
Poor child, that waitest for thy love!

For now her father's chimney glows
In expectation of a guest;
And thinking "this will please him best,"
She takes a riband or a rose;

For he will see them on to night;
And with the thought her color burns;
And, having left the glass, she turns
Once more to set a ringlet right;

And, even when she turned, the curse
Had fallen, and her future Lord
Was drowned in passing through the ford,
Or killed in falling from his horse.

O, what to her shall be the end?
And what to me remains of good?
To her perpetual maidenhood,
And unto me no second friend!

Witch-elms that counterchange the floor
Of this flat lawn with dusk and bright:
And though with all thy breadth and height
Of foliage, towering sycamore.

How often, hither wandering down
My Arthur found your shadows fair,
And shook to all the liberal air,
The dust, and din, and steam of town.

He brought an eye for all he saw;
He mixt in all our simple sports;
They pleased him, fresh from brawling courts
And dusky purlieus of the law.

O joy to him in this retreat,
Immantled in ambrosial dark,
To drink the cooler air, and mark
The landscape winking through the heat.

O sound to rout the brood of cares,
The sweep of scythe in morning dew,
The gust that round the garden flew,
And tumbled half the mellowing pears.

O bliss, when all in circle drawn
About him, heart and eye were fed
To hear him, as he lay and read
The Tuscan poets on the lawn.

Or in the all-golden afternoon
A guest, or happy sister, sung,
Or here she brought the harp and flung
A ballad to the brightening moon:

Nor less it pleased in livelier moods,
Beyond the bounding hill to stray,
And break the livelong summer day
With banquet in the distant woods;

Whereat we glanced from theme to theme,
Discussed the books to love or hate,
Or touched the changes of the state,
Or threaded some Socratic dream;

But if I praised the busy town,
He loved to rail against it still,
For ground in yonder social mill,
We rub each other's angles down,

"And merge," he said, "in form and gloss
The picturesque of man and man."
We talked; the stream beneath us ran,
The wine-flask lying couched in moss,

Or cooled within the glooming wave,
And last, returning from afar,
Before the crimson-circled star
Had fall'n into her father's grave,

And brushing ankle-deep in flowers,
We heard behind the woodbine veil
The milk that bubbled in the pail,
And buzzings of the honeyed hours.

Unwatched the garden bough shall sway,
The tender blossom flutter down,
Unloved that beech will gather brown,
This maple burn itself away:

Unloved, the sunflower, shining fair,
Ray round with flames her disk of seed,
And many a rose-carnation feed
With summer spice the humming air;

Unloved, by many a sandy bar,
The brook shall bubble down the plain,
At noon or when the lesser wain
Is twisting round the polar star;

Uncared for, gird the windy grove,
And flood the haunts of hern and crake;
Or into silver arrows break
The sailing moon in creek and cove;

Till from the garden and the wild
A fresh association blow,
And year by year the landscape grow
Familiar to the stranger's child;

As year by year the laborer tills
His wonted glebe, or lops the glades;
And year by year our memory fades
From all the circle of the hills.

How pure at heart and sound in head,
With what divine affections bold
Should be the man whose thought would hold
An hour's communion with the dead.

In vain shalt thou, or any, call
The spirits from their golden day,
Except, like them, thou too canst say
My spirit is at peace with all.

They haunt the silence of the breast,
Imaginations calm and fair,
The memory like a cloudless air,
The conscience as a sea at rest:

But when the heart is full of din,
And doubt beside the portal waits,
They can but listen at the gates,
And hear the household jar within.

Lives there a reptile baser than a slave?
Loathsome as death, corrupted as the grave.
—*James Montgomery.*

Miscellany.

THE TOMB OF PETRARCH.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN FOR THE CHRISTIAN INQUIRER.

"They keep his dust in Arqua, where he died."

WHAT is usually termed Italian scenery, ceases at the natural wall formed by the Appenines. I do not mean to say that beautiful landscapes are not to be found to the north of these mouniains, for I always look with renewed admiration on the situation of Bologna and the hills which surround it, although I confess that a mountain chain to the south always produces a disagreeable impression on my mind. Verona, with its green eminences, with its noble streams washing in vast curves through a deep bed in seeming joy at being released from the thraldom of the mountains, with its far-spreading plain, with the majestic horizon of the Alps, bears the palm over a hundred other cities. But a great portion of Romagna and of Lombardy is not Italy; the northern districts, with their lakes and Alpine land, although with a warmer glow than the southern and eastern districts, resemble parts of Southern Germany. This strikes me particularly in the neighborhood of Ferrara, and in a part of the Duchy of Modena, where you see in every direction immense plains or pasturages, monotonous ditches and dams, villages, of whose existence you are not aware until quite near them, from time to time a glimpse of the receding chain of mountains, ravines, olive trees or cypresses, but in their place, the vegetation of the north, and long avenues of gray willows. The mulberry tree and the flat roof of the dwelling houses, the dark eye of the peasant, and the blue heavens, alone remind you that you are still in Italy. This is why we look with so much pleasure on the Euganean hills, whose green heights seem to be the last boundary placed by Nature in the monotonous plain.

On coming from Rovigo, you cross the Adige, reach Monfelice, and find yourself at the foot of these hills. Monfelice stands in a most delightful situation, crowned by a picturesque castle, once a strong fortress, for this was a place of great military importance at the time when the Scala, the Carrara, the Este and the Gonzaga, and, mightier even than these, the Republic of Venice, struggled for dominion in the district to the south of the Po.

A road immediately behind Monfelice leads to the hills, and in an hour's time you reach ARQUA.

It is worthy of remark that the recollections attached to the name of Petrarch have been more profound and more lasting in those quiet and secluded spots to which they alone give celebrity, than in the cities he inhabited, for in these they were rapidly effaced by the constant fluctuation of men and events. Thus the retirement of Vaucluse, on the noisy stream of the Songia, preserves the memory of the poet as the most brilliant and buoyant epoch of his life, when that Laura whom he sung and who remains a mystery to posterity, chained him to Avignon, to which he constantly returned, although he hated that Babel of the West; as well as of that period when he sought to calm his passions by absence, but learned from experience that absence only increased it. But in Arqua, we find the traces of his latter days, when the dreams and illusions of youth had vanished, when illness had bowed his frame, and he may have felt that he had sacrificed too much at the world's shrine, and longed only for repose and the consolations of friendship.

It is in the year 1348, the year of the great plague and of the death of Madonna Laura, that we find Petrarch for the first time at the court of the Lords of Carrara, in the city of Padau. This family had inhabited Carrara for two centuries; their reign had commenced but thirty years previous. The virtues, which, contrary to the history of the elevation of other races in Italy, had paved their way to power, shine yet more brightly when we remember the bloody times of Eccelino da Romano, under whose iron yoke Padau, Vicenza, Verona and the Trevisan March long groaned. Their fame, it is true, did not remain untarnished. Like almost all other Italian princes, the Carraras stained their name with breach of faith and murder. Still, the brilliant qualities of many of them, their courage and spirit of enterprise, their almost unexampled fortitude in misfortune, with the beneficial effects of their government, may in some degree atone for their errors.

Jacopo da Carrara reigned at this period. He had obtained power by the murder of a near relative, and lost it again by the hand of his relations. How often was this the case in the great families of that day, particularly among the Visconti and the Scaliger. If we could or ought to view Petrarch abstractedly from the age in which he lived, we should be more astonished than we are at the praise he lavishes on this man.

"Padua," he writes to a friend, "offers us a peaceful and agreeable residence. How delightful to live with Jacopo Carrara, under whose reign this city is fast recovering from the effects of the mischief done there. He is the most virtuous of men. Virtue, always lovely, is doubly so in our age; the rarity of it heightens its worth."

Two years afterwards Jacopo was no more. A natural son of one of the Carrara, whose mode of life had given rise to much discussion, was at table with him and several other persons. He suddenly rose, approached the Prince under the pretext of having a request to make, and, leading him aside, stabbed him with his dagger. He then threw himself on the dying man in order to suck his blood, when the other guests, who were at first struck dumb with terror, hastened towards them and despatched the murderer. It was while sitting by the grave of Jacopo in the church of Saint Augustine, that Petrarch wrote the epitaph to be inscribed on it. He returned to Padua in 1368. Francesco Carrara, who had governed since the death of his father, inherited his reverence for Petrarch. "When I reached the city in the evening"—writes Petrarch to his countryman, the Papal Secretary, Francesco Bruni," I found that the ruler of Padua, whose power is great, but whose good qualities are still greater, being delighted at the idea of seeing me once more, had come to the gates to meet me. The night and rain obliged him to hasten home, but he left several of his retinue to accompany me. He lavished a thousand proofs of his affection and regard on me, for he not only sent a servant laden with presents, but, while I was at supper, came himself, with some of his retinue, and we enjoyed the most agreeable conversation till it was time to retire to rest." Francesco Carrara, himself a poet, was remarkably enlightened with regard to the arts and sciences. The presence of such a man as Petrarch, whose fame was unrivalled by any of his cotemporaries, who was constantly offered office, who was sought by princes, whose mediation was often requested in complicated political affairs, even though his rather artifical and elaborate eloquence did not always answer the expectations it had excited: the presence of such a man must have been satisfactory and flattering to the prince, and to the city of Padua, then already celebrated for its university. This university was at that time most prosperous, and the Pope had just acknowledged its right to confer the grade of Doctor of Theology, a privilege which had before been limited to the University of Paris, and which Padua and Bologna alone had shared in Italy. The city had flourished under the blessings of peace and a mild government; the family of Carrara adorned it with various public edifices, and its present sombre, but majestic aspect, and noble works of art, enable us to imagine what it must have been at a more active and stirring period.

Padua and its neighborhood were destined to be the peaceful abode of Petrarch's last years. His health was impaired. When Pope Urban V., listening not only to the entreaties of Italy, but of all Christendom, left Avignon, so long occupied by the Holy See, to return to Rome, he sent for Petrarch, who for many years had mourned the widowhood of the Eternal City, and had in many petitions conjured the Popes to comfort with their presence the city "which Peter had chosen for his seat, and with which the most glorious recollections of the Pontificate were entwined." accepted the invitation, and set off to see what he had so long and anxiously desired But he had not proceeded farther than Ferrara, when his exhausted frame gave way; and unable to continue his journey on horseback, he was obliged to relinquish his purpose and return to Padua by water. Before he had left that city, he had, although still in sound health of body and mind, made his will with his own hand. He there named the place where he wished to be interred, and bequeathed to the Cathedral of Padua, in which he possessed a benefice, a small farm, or the sum of 200 ducats for the purchase of one, exacting that mass should be said every year on the anniversary of his death.

He left to his friend, Francesco Carrara, as a proof of his affection, a picture of the Virgin, painted by Giotto, "the beauty of which is not understood by the ignorant (in art), but is admired by those capable of judging." He made bequests to several of his friends, his lute, his golden goblet, etc., and fifty florins of gold to his beloved Giovanni Boccaccio, for a rich winter dress, "in order that he may attend to his studies at night as well as by day." But he named his son-in-law, Francesco da Brossano, a citizen of Milan, his universal heir, leaving one half his property to him, the other half to his daughter Francesca.

He desired that a small dwelling he possessed at Vaucluse should be sold for the benefit of the hospital of that town. Thus far Petrarch made his will in his residence, near the Cathedral of Padua, "a will which would have been very different," says he, "were I rich as the vulgar suppose." This was the 20th of April, 1370. But many days yet remained to him, and he passed most of them in Arqua. The quiet of this spot, as well as the smiling landscape by which it is surrounded, must have been grateful to a man who had been so much tossed on the sea of life. The surrounding hills are rich in the varied beauties of nature.

When, on leaving Padua, you proceed by the fine road which runs along the banks of the canal of Battaglia, you see on the slope of these hills the magnificent residence of the Duke of Modena, Catajo, half villa, half castle, built in the middle of the 16th century by Pio degli Obissi, the head of an old and wealthy family, who caused hills to be levelled, terraces raised, brooks made to flow in that direction, and a large park planted, while the architect, taking advantage of the variety of the ground, created an agreeable diversity in the form of the building Rich collections, among which is one of antiquities, renders this palace doubly interesting. A little farther, we find the pretty village of Battaglia, to which the warm springs of the neighboring mountains, Saint Helena, constantly draw a number of visitors. Still more celebrated are the baths of Albano, which were highly esteemed by the Romans, and were sung by Claudian and Enodius. This was the birth-place of the Argonaut poet, Valerius Flaccus, and, as many think, of Livy, and where, during the middle ages, lived that Peter, who, according to popular belief, united the sciences of medicine and astronomy to a knowledge of the profoundest secrets of magic. The hills are grouped around two mountains, the Venda and the Cere, the first of which is 18,000 feet above the level of the sea, and is intersected by deep valleys and winding ravines, with bare or green slopes, with lakes and openings, and many traces of former convulsions caused both by fire and water.

It was in this cheerful neighborhood that Petrarch took up his abode for the rest of his days. The dwellings of Arqua lie scattered in groups on uneven ground; the house of the poet is in the upper part of the little village. "In the midst of the Euganean hills," writes he to Matteo Longa, "I have built a house, which although small, is suitable and comfortable. Here I shall pass the days which may yet be spared to me, peacefully and with feelings of unceasing affection for my absent or departed friends." And to his brother Gerhard, a Carthusian monk of Montrieu he says: 'In order not to be too far distant from my Cathedral of Padua, I have built a small, but cheerful house, amidst the hills, not ten miles from the city. It is surrounded by an olive garden and vineyards, which, though not extensive, supply the wants of my frugal household. Although I suffer bodily pain, my mind is here at ease I live without bustle, disputes, or care, constantly employed in reading or writing, praising God alike for the good or evil that has befallen me, praying Christ for a peaceful end as well as for mercy and forgiveness for the sins of my youth." But he did not spend his time in utter solitude. He says himself, that in no retirement or hidden retreat could he escape those visits which were the honorable *ennui* of his life. But, on the other hand, he did not lack society that was dear to him. His daughter and son-in-law lived with him, and the lord of Padua, whom Petrarch says he loved and honored not as a master, but as a son, both on account of his own attachment to him, as well as of his father's brotherly affection, often visited his rual retreat. Here they conversed on subjects of philosophy, literature, and politics, in all of which Carrara was well versed. Petrarch dedicated to him his work on the government of states, and the talent required by a ruler, and bestowed due praise on Francesco's good qualities, while he did not conceal his faults. The tiee which bound them to each other were destined to be united yet more closely. A dispute respecting a question of territory, first gave rise to a war with Venice, which was destined to cause the ruin of this princely house. The mighty republic which had once sought only the dominion of the seas, or Eastern possessions, had, for some time, fixed her eyes on the Italian continent, while, on the other hand, the Milanese house of Visconti sought to bring the whole country south of the Alps under its control. This was a double danger to the petty princes whose territories seperated those two states from each other, the Carrara, Gonzaga, and Este, who might have here found a reason for uniting, but they did not. Padua, which bordered on Venice, (for a few hours' drive takes you to the Lagunes,) was the first to enter the field, and was defeated. When the Venetian captain, Ranieri des Volschi, marched into the Paduan territory, and advanced towards the Euganean hills, Petrarch fled into the city, taking with him his literary treasures. True it is, that a noble-hearted Veronese, then in the Venetian service, offered to protect him in case Arqua were attacked, by putting his name on the door of his house; but the poet replied, that the Muses despised the favor of Mars.

The Lord of Tesaro, Pandolfo Malatesta, inviting him to seek repose and security in his city, sent him servants and horses. Petrarch returned thanks for his courtesy, but said, that although he should have been happy to see his friend and the charming spot he inhabited, his bodily infirmities, the winter weather, the long journey, and the disinclination to leave Padua under existing circumstances, caused him to decline it. Never having been timid, he did not wish to appear so now. The contest was quieted for a time. The Lord of Padua sent his eldest son, Francesco, who was called *Novello* (the younger), with a numerous retinue of noblemen, to Venice, to give satisfaction to the Senate. Petrarch accompanied his friend's son.

On the 27th September, 1373, they entered the city of the Lagunes; a few days afterwards the solemn reception took place Petrarch intended to deliver a speech; but when he found himself in the presence of the Senate, he thought to use his own words, that he beheld an assembly "not of men, but of Gods," and he became mute. It was not until the next day that he collected himself sufficiently to be able to deliver his speech, the eloquence of which secured him the applause of the very persons whose appearance had at first awed him so much. We cannot but recall how different was the impression produced on Dante by the same Senate, when he went to Venice as Ambassador, if the letter to Meseer Guido da Polenta, which was discovered in the 16th century, be really from Dante, which many doubt. He, who had expected to find in the Venetian Senate high-sould Catos, the rigid censors of what was evil, all, in short, that they professed to be, found in them the bold demolishers of old manners and customs, the authors of unjust oppression, and applied to them the words of Claudian, *Minesi presentia famam.* But to return to Francesco Novello. He was compelled to kneel before the Doge—Andrea Contarini then held that dignity—and entreat, in his father's name as well as in his own, for the fulfilment of the conditions which had been made and the preservation of peace. Novello forgot this humiliation, and chose henceforth for his armorial bearings the bull, with the motto—*Memor.*

This was the last time the poet left his peaceful abode. He had reached his seventieth year, and was now to obtain that peace which he had sighed for in his youth:

"*I' vo, gridando; pace! pace! pace!*"

On the morning of the 19th July, 1374, his family found him sleeping the eternal sleep; he was seated in his arm-chair; his head resting on a book—according to some, the Bible; according to others, the Confessions of St. Augustine.

When the fatal news reached Padua, the mourning was universal. But no one felt more deeply than Francesco da Carrara. The universities and schools were closed, and thousands streamed from the city and the neighboring towns to Arqua.—When the day appointed for the funeral came, Carrara repaired to the village with his retinue and the principle nobles of Padau, the bishops, the canons, the clergy, and the diffetent orders of monks, the doctors and students, as well as a great concourse of people. The funeral ceremony was solemn.—The bier was surrounded by lighted tapers; the body, clothed in the habit of a canon, lay on cloth of gold, under a dais ornamented with gold and ermine. Sixteen doctors of law bore the bier to the parochial church, where the body was deposited in a chapel dedicated to the Virgin by the deceased Fra Bonaventura da Peraga, a learned Augustine monk, and a friend of Petrarch, preached the funeral discourse.

But this first resting-place was not destined to be a permanent one. Disregarding the wish expressed by Petrarch, Francesco da Brossano erected a larger monument, on the little square before the church. On a slab, supported by four broad and low pillars, stands an enormous sarcophagus of red Veronese marble, with a small bronze bust, and an in inscription, stating that this cold stone covers the remains of Francesco Petrarch, and calling on the Virgin Mary to have mercy on his soul, so that, weary of earthly life, he may find rest in the kingdom of heaven.

In 1730, one side of the sarcophagus was broken away at night, and the right arm stolen; a monk was afterwards discovered to have been the perpetrator of this deed. The people of Padau declared it to have been at the instigation of the Florentines who wished to possess a part of these bones, that this act of sacrilege was committed.

The Venetian government caused the monument, to be repaired; but by degrees it fell into decay, crevices in the stone gave admission to the moisture as well as to insects; the bust was injured by rude soldiery, and finally the pillars which supported the monument threatened to give way. In the spring of 1843, Count Carlo Leoni, a noble of Padua, who had previously given a proof of his admiration for the great poet by a charming little work, called—"*Memorie Petrarchesche*," caused the monument to be restored at his expense, and ordered the sarcophagus to be opened. The remains of the body and some fragments of the black tunic in which it was clothed, were found within it.

I have seldom seen a monument which, from its general aspect as well as from the quiet which surrounds it, leave, so solemn and durable an impression on the mind, as that of the first lyric poet of Italy.

LEIGH HUNT IN PRISON.

"These rooms, and the visits of my friends, were the bright side of my captivity. I read verses without end, and wrote almost as many. I had also the pleasure of hearing that my brother had found comfortable rooms in Coldbath-fields, and a host who really deserved that name as much as a jailer could. The first year of my imprisonment was a long pull up-hill; but never was metaphor so literally verified, as by the sensation at the turning of the second. In the first year, all the prospect was that of the one coming: in the second, the days began to be scored off, like those of children at school preparing for a holiday. When I was fairly settled in my new apartments, the jailer could hardly give sufficient vent to his spleen at my having escaped his clutches, his astonishment was so great. Besides, though I treated him handsomely, he had a little lurking fear of the *Examiner* upon him; so he contented himself with getting as much out of me as he could, and boasting of the grand room which he would fain have prevented my enjoying.

"My friends were allowed to be with me till ten o'clock at night, when the under-turnkey, a young man with his lantern, and much ambitious gentility of deportment, came to see them out. I believe we scattered an urbanity about the prison, till then unknown. Even William Hazlitt, who there first did me the honor of a visit, would stand interchanging amenities at the wicket which I had great difficulty in making him pass. I know not which kept his hat off with the greater pertinacity of deference—I to the diffident cutter-up of Tory dukes and kings, or he to the amazing prisoner and invalid who issued out of a bower of roses. There came my old friends and school-fellows, Pitman, whose wit and animal spirits kept him alive; Mitchell, who translated Aristophanes; and Barnes, who always reminded me of Fielding. It was he that introduced me to the late Mr. Thomas Alsager, the kindest of neighbors, a man of business, who contrived to be a scholar and a musician. He loved his leisure, and yet would start up at a moment's notice to do the least of a prisoner's biddings.

"My now old friend, Cowden Clarke, with his ever young and wise heart, was good enough to be his own introducer, paving his way, like a proper investor of prisons, with baskets of fruit.

"The Lambs came to comfort me in all weathers, hail or sunshine, in daylight and in darkness, even in the dreadful frost and snow of the beginning of 1814.

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"Some persons, not at all known to us, offered to raise money enough to pay the fine of £1,000. We declined it, with proper thanks; and it became us to do so. But, as far as my own feelings were concerned, I have no merit; for I was destitute, at that time, of even a proper instinct with regard to money. It was not long afterwards that I was forced to call upon friendship for its assistance; and nobly (as I shall show bye-and-bye) was it afforded me.

"To some other friends, near and dear, I may not even return thanks in this place for a thousand nameless attentions, which they make it a business of their existance to bestow on those they love. I might as soon thank my own heart. But one or two others whom I have not seen for years, and who by some possibility (if, indeed, they ever think it worth their while to fancy anything on the subject) might suppose themselves forgotten, I may be suffered to remind of the pleasure they gave me. M. S., who afterwards saw us so often near London, has long, I hope, been enjoying the tranquility he so richly deserved; and so, I trust, is C. S., whose face, or rather something like it (for it was not easy to match her own), I continually met with afterwards in the land of her ancestors. Her veil, and her baskets of flowers, used to come through the portal, like light.

"I must not omit the honor of a visit from the venerable Bentham, who has justly said to unite the wisdom of a sage with the simplicity of a child. He found me playing at battledore, in which he took a part, and, with his usual eye towards improvement, suggested an amendment in the constitution of shuttlecocks. I remember the surprise of the governor at his local knowledge and his vivacity. 'Why, Mister,' said he, 'his eye is everywhere at once.'"—*Hunt's Autobiography.*

THE ORIGIN OF A STATUE.—Of course, among the many idle persons to whom an unfortunate world has given money and no work to do, there must be with or without wisdom (without, work to do is very desirable, for those who have only money and not work, for the most part,) a most brisk demand for work. "Alas, one cannot buy *sleep* in the market!" says the rich Farmer-General. Alas, one cannot buy work there: work which is still more indispensable. One of these unfortunates with money and no work, whose haunts lie in the dilettanti line, among Artists' Studios, Picture-sales, and the like regions,—and inane kingdom much frequented by the inane in these times,—him it strikes in some inspired moment, that if a subscription for a statute to Somebody could be started, good results would follow. Perhaps some Artist to whom he is Mæcenas, might be got to do the Statue; at all events there would be extensive work and stir going on—whereby the inspired dilettante, for his own share, might get upon committees, see himself named in the newspapers; might assist in innumerable consultations, open utterances of speech and balderdash; and on the whole, be comfortably present, for years to come, at something of the nature of a "house on fire;" house innocuously, nay beneficially on fire; a very Goshen to an idle man with money in his pocket. This is the germ of the idea; now make your idea an action. Think of a proper Somebody. Almost anybody much heard of in the newspapers, and never yet convicted of felony; a conspicuous commander-in-chief, duke no matter whether of Wellington or of York; successful stump-orator, political intriguer; lawyer that has made two hundred thousand pounds; scrip dealer that has made two thousand pounds—anybody of a large class, we are not particular, he will be your proper Somebody. You are then to get a brother idler or two to unite his twenty-pound note to yours—the fire is kindled, smoke rises through the editorial columns; the fire, if you blow it, will break into flame, and become a comfortable house on fire for you, solacing the general idle soul, for years to come; and issuing in a big hulk of Corinthian brass, and a notable instance of hero-worship, by and by.—*Thomas Carlyle's Latter-Day Pamphlets.*

Gleanings from Foreign Publications.

A GLIMPSE OF PITT AND FOX.—Some years later, I saw Mr. Pitt in a blue coat, buckskin breeches and boots, and a round hat, with powder and pigtail. He was thin and gaunt, with his hat off his forehead, and his nose in the air. Much about the same time I saw his friend, the first Lord Liverpool, a respectable looking old gentleman, in a brown wig. Later still, I saw Mr. Fox, fat and jovial, though he was then declining. He, who had been a "beau" in his youth, then looked something quaker-like as to dress, with plain coloured clothes, a broad round hat, white waistcoat, and, if I am not mistaken, white stockings. He was standing in Parliament street, just where the street commences as you leave Whitehall? and was making two young gentlemen laugh heartily at something which he seemed to be relating.—*Leigh Hunt.*

THE DESCENDANTS OF ROBERT BURNS.—"For some time," says the *Daily News*, "there has been travelling in the interior of the remote island of Borneo, and sojourning among its rude people of head hunters a young man by the name of Burns, and this young man is the grandson of Robert Burns, and "bonny Jean." This adventurous youth has not only been hospitably and kindly treated by the rude Dyaks, but a prince of the Kayan nation, the most powerful of the island, has given him one of his daughters to wife; so that the future biographers of Robert Burns will, in all human likelihood, be able to enumerate among his descendants those also of a Bornean prince. Mr. Burns has discovered mines of antimony and coal-fields in Borneo more extensive than any in the world, out of America.

HOW THE LAWYERS CAME BY THEIR PATRON SAINT.—And now, because I am speaking of pettifogers, give me leave to tell you a story I met with when I lived in Rome. "Going with a Romane to see some antiquityes, he showed me a chapell dedicated to one St. Evona, a lawyer of Brittanie, who he said came to Rome to entreat the Pope to give the lawyers of Brittanie a patron, to which the Pope replied that he knew of no saint but what was disposed of to other professions. At which Evona was very sad, and earnestly beg'd of the Pope to think of one for him. At last the Pope proposed to St. Evona that he should go round the church of St. John de Lateran blindfould, and after he had said so many Ave Marias, that the first saint he laid hold of should be his patron, which the good old lawyer willingly undertook; and at the end of his Ave Marye he stopt at St. Michel's alter, where he laid hold of the Divell, under St. Michel's feet, and cry'd out, 'This is our saint, let him be our patron; so being unblindfoulded, and seeing what a patron he had chosen, he went to his lodgings so dejected that in a few months after he died."—*Notes and Queries.*

VILLAGE POETRY.—The following is part of a psalm sung in Osmotherly church, in this county, above a century ago. It was composed by the parish clerk, on the occasion of the murrian, a severe distemper that raged among the horned cattle in the year 1747. It was sung and chorused by the whole congregation in the Church. The first four stanzas contained an account of the cattle that died, and the names of the farmers to whom they belonged; the remaining verses were as follows:

"No Christian's bull, no cow they say,
But takes it out of hand;
And we shall have no cows at all,
I doubt, within this land.

The doctors, though they all have spoke
Like learned gentlemen,
And told us how the entrails look
Of cattle dead and green;

Yet they do nothing do at all,
With all their learning's store;
So Heaven drive out this plague away,
And vex us not no more."

This piece was so well received, that after the service it was desired again by all the congregation, except five farmers, who wept, declaring that the lines were too moving. The minister, in going out, said to the clerk, "Why, John, what psalm was that we had to-day? it was not one of David's."—"No, no," quoth John (big with the honor he had acquired), "David never made such a psalm since he was born—this is one of my own."—*Hodgson's History of Allertonshire and Birdforth.*

SIR THOMAS BOLEYN'S SPECTRE.—Sir Thomas Boleyn, the father of the unfortunate queen of Henry VIII. resided at Blickling, distant about fourteen miles from Norwich, and now the residence of the Dowager Lady Suffield. The spectre of this gentleman is believed by the vulgar to be drowned annually on a certain night in the year, to drive, for the period of a thousand years, a coach drawn by four headless horses, over a circuit of twelve bridges in that vicinity. These are Aylsham, Burgh, Oxnead, Buxton, Coltishall, the two Meyton bridges, Wroxham, and four others whose names I do not recollect. Sir Thomas carries his head under his arm, and flames issue from his mouth. Few rustics are hardy enough to be found loitering on or near those bridges on that night; and my informant averred that he was himself on one occasion hailed by this fiendish apparition, and asked to open a gate, but "he warn't sich a fool as to turn his head; and well a' didn't, for Sir Thomas passed him full gallop like;" and he heard a voice which told him that he (Sir Thomas) had no power to hurt such as turned a deaf ear to his requests, but that had he stopped he would have carried him off. This tradition I have repeatedly heard in this neighborhood from aged persons when I was a child, but I never found but one person who had ever actually seen the phantom. Perhaps some of your correspondents can give some clue to this extraordinary sentence. The coach and four horses are attached to another tradition I have heard in the west of Norfolk, where the ancestor of a family is reported to drive his spectral team through the old walled-up gateway of his now demolished mansion on the anniversary of his death, and it is said that the bricks next morning have ever been found loose and fallen, though as constantly repaired. The particulars of this I could easily procure by reference to a friend.—*Notes and Queries.*

FINAL CLOSING OF CONCILIATION HALL.—The weekly rent (says the *London News*) announced on Monday was only £4. 10s Mr. John O'Connell moved that the association should adjourn *sine die*, as they were in debt, and had lost all control over the Hall He took this course as a last experiment to rouse the country: and if the present appeal should be responded to, the committee would have the power of once more convening a public meeting of the association. The motion was carried "in solemn silence," and the few persons in the hall quietly walked off.

HANDWRITING.—Some time ago, persons inclined to an ambitious turn of mind thought it indicative of an intellectual or literary disposition to write an unreadable hand; and we have heard men boast that they wrote so as not to be understood. This is an odd kind of success, and a very vulgar one to boot. A rapid hand may indicate a habit of writing, and therefore a familiarity with pursuits more or less intellectual; but not to be able to write both well and fast is a defect of skill, and can in no way be twisted into an ornamental trait. To write so that your correspondent cannot decipher you is silly as regards your own object in writing, disrespectful as regards him. Not to perceive that certain words which do not derive elucidation from the context, such as technical terms and proper names, need particular distinctness is a mistake of dullness. We do not mean to say that all men who write badly are dullards, or we might be confuted by a storm of illustrious autographs; but we do mean, that when a man intends to make you understand an idea, has a pen in his hand for the purpose, and fails for want of capacity to make the letters of the alphabet, that man's intellect is asleep.—*Spectator.*

THE AUTHOR OF "THE AMBER WITCH."—The Pomeranian pastor, Meinhold, whose singular romance, the *Amber Witch*, is well known in England through more than one translation, has just been condemned to three months' imprisonment, and a fine of one hundred thalers, besides costs, for slander against another clergyman, named Stosch, in a communication published in the *New Prussian Zeitung*. The sentence was rendered more severe than usual in such cases by the fact that Meinhold had previously been condemned for the same offence against another party. The *Amber Witch* is one of the "curiosities of literature," for in the last German edition the author is obliged to prove that it is entirely a work of imagination, and not, as almost all the German critics believed it to be when it first appeared, the reprint of an old chronicle. "It was, in fact, says the correspondent of the *Times*, "written as a trap for the disciples of Strauss and his school, who had pronounced the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be a collection of legends, from historical research, assisted by 'internal evidence.' Meinhold did not spare them when they fell into the snare, and made merry with the historical knowledge and critical acumen that could not detect the contemporary romancer under the mask of the chronicler of two centuries ago, while they decided so positively as to the authority of the most ancient writings in the world."

NINEVEH DISCOVERIES.—Very late and highly satisfactory accounts have within these few days been received from Mr. Layard, in Assyria, giving intelligence of new and important discoveries in the Nimroud mound. He has made fresh and extensive excavations in parts of the eminence not yet explored, and the result has been the finding of nothing less than the throne upon which the monarch, reigning about 3000 years ago, sat in his splendid palace. It is composed of metal and of ivory, the metal being richly wrought, and the ivory beautifully carved. It does not appear in what part of the edifice this discovery has been made; but it seems that the throne was separated from the state apartments by means of a large curtain, the rings by which it was drawn and undrawn having been preserved. At the date of his advices (the beginning of last month) Mr. Layard was pursuing his researches with renewed ardor in consequence of the astonishing success that has hitherto attended his exertions. No human remains have come to light, and everything indicates the destruction of the palace by fire. It is said that the throne has been partially fused by the heat.—*Weekly News.*

THE DISGRACE OF THE DICTATOR OF HUNGARY.—Haynau, the Dictator of Hungary, is placed by the Emperor of AUSTRIA, according to courtly German, in *Ruhestande*, i. e., in a state of repose. In plain English he is disgraced and dismissed from all civil power and military functions. He is not even to receive the military allowance from the Government, which, in England, means half-pay.

His Dictatorship, during the last few months, arrogated nearly all the Imperial authority—even to the highest prerogative, that of mercy, and of life and death. Far darker deeds committed by him, than have hitherto been known, will soon be disclosed.

An act of clemency has just been promulgated, declaring that all military and clerical persons now in prison for political offences, shall be, without delay, released.

Austria has many sins against Hungary to purge by clemency and justice. It is with gladness that we record the disgrace of HAYNAU. It is with thankfulness that we announce the amnesty. May justice, intelligence, and mercy, by the rule and practice of the Emperor's administration in Hungary! If he proves this by his policy he will regain the hearts and command the loyalty of that generous nation, which in the period of her calamity exclaimed with faithful chivalry, "*Moriamur pro Rege nostro Maria Theresa.*"—*London News.*

AN AERONAUTIC HORSE.—Extraordinary interest has been excited in Paris, during last week, by the announcement that M. Poiteven, an aeronaut, would ascend on horseback with a balloon. Upwards of 10,000 persons paid for admission to the Champ de Mars to witness the ascent, and outside, on the heights of Chaillot, &c., upwards of 150,000 individuals were collected. There was a vast number of carriages and horsemen. The receipts must have been very large. The President of the Republic was present, and was received with great enthusiasm. The balloon was fifteen metres in diamater, forty-seven in circumference, and twenty high, but it only weighed one hundred and sixty kilogrammes. It was a matter of considerable difficulty to fill the balloon with gas, owing to the violent wind which prevailed; and, when it was filled, it was beaten to and fro so strongly that several of the spectators had to assist in holding it. At a little before six o'clock, the horse, a handsome dapple grey, was brought out. A stout cloth was placed round the body, and several straps, passed over the shoulders and loins, were united in rings, and by these rings the animal was attached by cords to the network of the balloon. A platform of basketwork, seven or eight feet above the horse, contained the ballast, and to this platform the aeronaut had access by means of a rope ladder. A cord, passing through an opening in the platform, enabled him to open the valve of the balloon. The aeronaut was dressed as a jockey, and had with him several bottles of wine and some bread. Some confusion was caused by the crowd attempting to force their way into the reserved place, but they were kept off by the soldiers. At length, at ten minutes past six, the horse was duly attached to the balloon, and M. Poiteven having mounted its back, the signal to rise was given. The horse plunged a little as it lost its footing, but when fairly lifted from the earth it dropped its legs, as is the case when horses are slung for embarkation on shipboard. The balloon rose majestically over the Ecole Militariro, but at times the wind was so violent as to drive it in such a position that it appeared on a level with the aeronaut. The emotion of the spectators was very great, and one lady fainted. M. Poiteven displayed extraordinary *sang-froid*, and saluted with his cap and whip. After a while he was seen to leave his saddle and ascend by means of the rope ladder to the platform containing the ballast, in order to throw some of it away, so as to rise higher. This done, he descended and again mounted the horse. There was no network or anything to protect him or the animal. The balloon went in the direction of Fontainebleau.—(London) *Weekly Times.*

AN EXTRAORDINARY CALCULATOR.—There is a German at present residing in London, whose calculating powers seem to outbid those of the celebrated George Bidder. At the Institute of Actuaries the evening was occupied by the appearance of a gentleman named Daze. The first question asked him was the product of a number, consisting of five figures by another number of figures, and the correct number was given almost instantaneously. The balloting balls, which had just been used for the admission of new members, were thrown from the box loose upon the table, and Herr Daze, after taking a single glance, and then turning away, declared the total number to be 68, which proved to be correct, when the balls were counted and returned to the box. It should be remarked in this case that some were lying much nearer together than others, and that they would appear to an ordinary spectator to be so confused as to puzzle even an experienced calculator how to avoid reckoning some of them twice. He then gave the product of two numbers to 12 figures, multiplied it by 7, and repeated the latter product backwards without an error in any figure. He was then asked the cube of 457, which was correctly given, 95,443,993, almost instantly. He will divide a number by another consisting of two or three figures, and will write down the answer